



Annual Town Report

Town of Ipswich
2014

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	Page
Roster of Town Officials and Committees	3
Annual Town Meeting	13
Special Town Meetings	27
General Government	
Board of Selectmen	40
Finance Committee	41
Town Manager	41
Purchasing and Management Services	42
Department of Public Safety	
Police Department	42
Public Safety Communications	46
Emergency Management	47
Animal Control	48
Harbors	49
Shellfish	51
Fire	52
Department of Public Works	
Public Works Divisions	53
Facilities Department	56
Cemeteries/Parks Department	57
Department of Code Enforcement	
Building Department	58
Health Department	59
Zoning Board of Appeals	63
Department of Planning and Development	
Planning Board	65
Conservation Commission	66
Historical Commission	68
Housing Partnership	69
Open Space Committee	70
Agricultural Commission	71
Department of Human Services	
Recreation Department	72
Council on Aging	73
Veterans' Services	75

Department of Utilities	
Electric Department	76
Water Division	77
Wastewater Treatment	79
 Finance Directorate	
Accounting Office	80
Treasurer/Collector	81
Assessors' Office	81
Town Clerk	81
Elections and Registrations	82
MIS Department	84
 Ipswich Public Library	84
 School Department	86
 Shade Tree Beautification	94
 Trust Fund Commission	95
 Financial Statements 2014	96

ROSTER OF TOWN OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES

Elected

Moderator
(1 year)

Thomas Murphy

Board of Selectmen
(3 years)

William M. Craft, Chair
Charles D. Surpitski, V. Chair
Judy A. Field
Shirley A. Berry
Nishan Mootafian

School Committee
(3 years)

Barry Hopping
Sarah Player
Jennifer Bauman
Carl Nylén
Sean Gresh
Feruza Krasón
Hugh O'Flynn,

Constable

Peter J. Dziadosé

Appointed

Finance Committee
(3 years)

Michael J. Schaaf
Kevin Murphy
Mitch Feldman (Chair)
Jamie M. Fay
Marion W. Swan
Richard F. Howard
Robert A. White
Ingrid Miles
Janice Clements Skelton

Whittier Regional Technical Vocational
High School Representative

Vacancy

Town Officials

Town Manager
Management Services Director
Special Assistant & Human Resources Director

Robin Crosbie
Frank V. Antonucci
Jennifer F. Breaker

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. William I Hart

Director of Finance
MIS Director
Assessor
Town Clerk
Assistant Town Clerk
Treasurer/Collector
Assistant Treasurer
Deputy Tax Collector

Rita M. Negri
Gregory Parachojuk
Robin Nolan
Pamela Z. Carakatsane
Kathleen A. Marini
Kevin A. Merz
Corinna Warner
Kelly and Ryan Associates Inc.

Director of Code Enforcement
Local Building Inspector
Health Agent
Food Inspector
Plumbing & Gas Inspector
Alternate Plumbing & Gas Inspector
Sealer of Weights & Measures
Wiring Inspector
Asst. Wiring Inspector

James A. Sperber
Eric Colville
Colleen Fermon
Maureen Lee
Robert Hyde
Kevin Lombard
Dwight Brothers
David Levesque, Sr.
Frederick Gallagher

Director of Plant & Facilities
Assistant to Facilities Director

William A. Hodge
Jane Spellman

Director of Public Works
DPW Operations Manager
Superintendent of Cemetery & Parks

Richard Clarke
Frank J. Ventimiglia
Jeffrey Putur

Fire Chief
Fire Prevention Officer

Gregory Gannon
Sean Cronin

Police Chief
Police Lieutenant

Paul Nikas
Jon Hubbard

Harbormaster
Shellfish Constable

Paul Nikas
Scott LaPreste

Emergency Management Director

Jon Hubbard

Animal Control Officer
Assistant Animal Control Officer

Matthew Antczak
Harry Leno

Director of Council on Aging

Sheila Taylor

Town Historian

Gordon Harris

Library Director
Assistant Library Director

Victor E. Dyer
Genevieve Picard

Director of Planning & Development
Assistant Planner
Affordable Housing Coordinator
Open Space Program Manager
Stewardship Coordinator
Conservation Agent

Glenn C. Gibbs

Terry Anderson
VACANT
Beth O'Connor
Alicia Geilen

Town Counsel

Attorney George Hall Jr.
Anderson and Krieger

Director of Utilities
Business Manager/Utilities
Electric Operations Manager
Water and Waste Water Manager

VACANT
Karen Repucci
Donald Newell
Victoria Halmen

Veterans Services District

Ryan Lennon

Boards and Committees

Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board

James Kroesser
James Warner
Michael Jones
Glenn C. Gibbs
Patrick McNally

Agricultural Commission

Royce Knowlton
Kelly Jacklin,
Glenn Hazelton
Michael Marini
Bill Cassidy
VACANT

Alternatives

Deborah Clapp
Laura Russell

	Jay Stansbury Robert Porter
Athletic Playing Fields Study Committee	Ken Swenson, Chair Judy Field John Galanis John Gillis Susan Markos Carl Nylén Liz Lombard Michael Duffield Kerrie Bates Jeffrey Putur
Audit Committee	William Craft, Chair Robert White (Finance Com) Carl Nylén Larry Pszenney William Callahan
Board of Assessors	Robin Nolan John Moberger Karen L. Rassias
Bay Circuit Trail Committee	Lawrence G. Eliot, Chair Barbara Ostberg Ed Murphy Ralph Williams Norman Marsh Martha Mauser
Ipswich Community Access Media (ICAM)	Robert Ryan, Chair Gregory Parachojuk Ann Savage James Maloney Scott Ames Dan Clasby Cushing Titcomb
Cemetery & Parks Commission	James Graffum Harry Argeropoulos Theodore Lemieux

Public Safety Committee

Charles D. Surpitski

Edward D. Dick

William Thoen

Paul McGinley

Roland Gallant

John Morris

Jamie Fay

Jean Emerson

James Graffum

Peter Foote

Public Arts Committee

Kristina Brendal

Paula Jones

John Fiske

Katie McElwain

Barbara Monahan

Commuter Rail Committee

Dorcas Rice, Chair

Robert Waldner

Joseph Carlin

Chris Curry

Paul Sanborn

Conservation Commission

David Standley, Chair

Jennifer Hughes, Vice Chair

William McDavitt

Sissy Ffolliott

Brian F. O'Neill

Catherine Carney Feldman

Michele A. Hunton

Alicia Geilen

Raymond Putnam

Conservation Agent

Associate Member

Council On Aging

Diane Mitchell

Lilian Riley

Tone Kenney

Nancy Scanzani

Penny Foss

Keith Carlson

Carol Poirier

Cultural Council

(3 years)

Barta Hathaway, Chair

Michele McGrath

Ann Fitzgerald

	Jane Ward Mike Souter Gail Doktor Kathleen Bonnar Marie Mancinelli Miriam Novogrosky Gina Looby Kristina Brendel
Design Review Board	Rue Sherwood Laura Gresh Kristina Brendel Mitchell Lowe Robert L Weatherall
Alternate Members	Ken Savoie Jeff Anderson
Eight Towns & the Bay Committee	Franz Ingelfinger Glenn Wood
Electric Light Sub-Committee	Charles D. Surpitski, Chair William M. Craft Michael Schaaf James Engel Edward Sklarz
Fair Housing	Tone Kenney
Government Study Committee	David Standley Richard Nylen Craig Saline KellyJane Kloub
Hall-Haskell Committee	Theresa Stephens, Chair William Nelson William Thoen Stephanie Gaskins James C. Lahar Margaret Broeker Ed Sukach
Board of Health	Susan C. Hubbard, Chair Spencer R. Amesbury, MD Margaret McDermott

Historical Commission

Stephen Miles
Gordon Harris
Brian Townsend
Laura Gresh
John Fiske
Laura Gresh

Alternative Members

Christopher Morse
Ruth Strachan
Jeff Anderson
Anne Page

Affordable Housing Partnership

Michael Schaaf, Chair
James Warner
Michael Jones
Edward D. Dick
Moriah Marsh
Ingrid Miles
Charles Allen
Donald Greenough

Ipswich River Watershed
District Advisory Board

VACANT

Library Trustees

George R. Gray, Chair
Lawrence J. Pszenny
Marie Louise Scudder
Hugh McCall
Sherry Hurley
Judith L. Rusin
Helen Danforth
Dorothy Johnson
Marion Frost

Mosquito Control Advisory Board

Robert A. Gambale, Chair
Lisa Galanis
Ed Ruta
Ernest Brockelbank.
Anne Wallace

Open Space Committee

Wayne Castonguay, Co-Chair
Carolyn Britt, Co-Chair
Carl Nylen
Ralph Williams
Andy Brengle

	William Holton
Planning Board (5 years)	John Stanbury Heidi Paek Cathryn Cadwick Kathleen Milano Keith Anderson Carolyn Britt
Associate Member (2 years)	
Public Safety Facilities Committee	Charles Supitski, Chair Edward D. Dick Robin Crosbie William Thoen Paul McGinley Roland Gallant John Morris Sean Cronin Jamie Fay Chief Rick Smith William A. Hodge Richard L. Korb Jeffrey B. Loeb Jean Emerson James E. Graffum Peter Foote
Recreation & Culture Committee	Kristina Brendel Paul Sacksman Christine Sortwell Susan DeMarle David Wallace Michele Wertz Kerrie Bates
Recycling Committee	David Benedix Penny Devoe Mark Avenmarg Rick Clarke Judy Sedgewick Mike Judy Paula Jones Meredith McMorro Nicole Whitten Heather Pillis Andrea Lacroix

	Marlene Faria Connelly
Registrar of Voters	Pamela Z. Carakatsane Rob Stone Katherine Eliopoulos Peter Ross
Sandy Point Advisory Committee	Joseph W. Parks Stanley W. Wood
Shellfish Sub-Committee	Michael Lambros Charles D. Surpitski, Scott LaPreste Wayne Castonguay Constable LaPreste Linda Alexson Harbor Master Nikas David Swicker Brenda Turner
Shade Tree & Beautification Committee	Janet Craft, Chair Ann Wright Pat Flannigan Rick Clarke Pat McNally Pat Beirne Paula Jones Charles D. Surpitski Christopher Wood Barbara Monahan
Trust Fund Commission	Richard Fates Jean Emerson Alexander Colby
Water Sub Committee	Shirley A. Berry Ingrid Miles Nishan Mootafian James Engel David Stanley Timothy Corrigan
Wastewater Sub Committee	Judy A. Field William M. Craft,

Marion Swan
James Engel
Brian Kubaska

Waterways Advisory Committee

Ken Spellman, Chair
Brett Emerson
Bill Callahan
Rob Cox
Jeffrey French
Ken Blades
Elton McCausland

Zoning Board of Appeals

Robert A. Gambale, Chair.
Benjamin Fierro
Lewis Vlahos
Roger LeBlanc
William A. Page
Robert Tragert
VACANT

Alternative Member

REV 4/27/15

**RECORD OF ACTION
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 13, 2014**

Pursuant to the foregoing Warrant, the legal voters of the Town of Ipswich met in the Ipswich High School/Middle School Performing Arts Center in said Town of Ipswich on Tuesday, May 13, 2014. A quorum being present (May 13, 2014: 365- 200 required and May 14, 2014: 202-200 required), the meeting of May 13, 2014, was called to order by the Moderator, Mr. Thomas R. Murphy, at 7:05 P.M. and the meeting of May 14, 2014, was called to order by Mr. Murphy at 7:45 P.M.

The counters for the evening, in the auditorium, were Elizabeth Kilcoyne, Irene Josephson, Robert Wicks, Mark Avenmarg, Chuck Moran and Mark Allman. The Moderator in the cafeteria was Craig Steline; and Carolyn Britt was appointed as a counter.

Non registered persons were given permission to attend the meeting as spectators and were seated in the cafeteria. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the local Girl Scout Troupe.

State Representative Bradford Hill spoke on State aid for the municipalities. He also presented outgoing School Committee Member Rachel Rossler and outgoing Selectman Patrick J. McNally with citations commending them for their dedication to the Town.

ARTICLE 1 **Election of Officers and School Override**

The following notice provision was read by “To see if the Town will vote on the following questions on one ballot at the YMCA Hall, County Road, on Tuesday, May 20, 2014; the polls shall open at 7:00 a.m. and shall close at 8:00 P.M.

- (1) To choose the following officers, viz: a Moderator for one [1] year; two [2] members of the Board of Selectmen for three [3] years; three [3] members of the School committee for three [3] years; one [1] member of the Housing Authority for five [5] years.
- (2) BALLOT QUESTION: Shall the Town of Ipswich be allowed to assess an additional \$2,750,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the School Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014?

ARTICLE 2 **Consent Calendar**

A MOTION was made by Charles D. Surpitski, and duly seconded, to

- (1) To set salaries of elected officials, except that the salaries for the Board of Selectmen shall be set at \$1,000.00 Chair annually; \$750.00 member annually;
- (2) To transfer the sum of \$325,000 as a payment-in-lieu of taxes from the Electric Light Department;
- (3) To hear reports from Commuter Rail Committee, Hall-Haskell Committee, and Open Space & Recreation Committee, and to continue these as standing committees of Town Meeting;
- (4) To authorize the Board of Selectmen to temporarily appoint a member of said Board as Acting Town Manager for a limited period of time not to exceed the date of the 2015 Annual Town Meeting for purposes of vacation, leave, or absence in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A, Section 20 and 21A;

(5) To authorize and/or re-authorize for FY'2015 the following revolving funds established under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½:

- a. a Department of Public Safety revolving fund, the use of said fund to pay for the operation and maintenance of the Town Wharf, and to determine that no more than \$10,000 may be expended by the Department of Public Safety in FY 14 from such funds transferred into said fund during FY'2015. (Source of funds: Launching Fees);
- b. a Department of Public Works revolving fund, the use of said fund to finance approved beautification projects and related expenses, and to determine that no more than \$5,000 may be expended by the Department of Public Works in FY'2015 from such funds transferred into said fund during FY'2015. (Source of funds: Sale of wood from the grand elm tree);
- c. a Health Department Public Health revolving fund, to be funded through reimbursements from Medicare Part B, Medicare Senior Advantage Plans and other insurance plans for the administration of influenza and pneumococcal vaccines to be used to finance part-time wages and pay related expenditures such as the cost of vaccine, medical supplies, and other administrative costs, and to determine that no more than \$5,000 may be expended by the Public Health Department from monies transferred into said fund during FY'2015. (Source of funds: Medicare Part B, Medicare Senior Advantage Plans and other insurance plans);
- d. a Council on Aging revolving fund, the use of said fund to pay for special activities, expendable supplies and/or part-time wages, and to determine that no more than \$100,000 may be expended by the Council on Aging from monies transferred into said fund during FY'2015 (Source of funds: fees contributed by seniors participating in special activities);
- e. a Historical Commission revolving fund, the use of said fund to pay for preservation of Town records and to purchase expendable supplies, and to determine that no more than \$5,000 may be expended by the Historical Commission from monies transferred into said fund during FY'2015 (Source of funds: sale of publications);
- f. a Health Department revolving fund, the use of said fund to finance additional part-time help in the Health Department and to pay related expenses, and to determine that no more than \$7,000 may be expended by the Health Department in FY'2015 from such funds transferred into said fund during FY'2015 (Source of funds: Housing Code inspection fees);
- g. a Facilities Department revolving fund to pay for custodial services and other expenses associated with the use of the gymnasium and other Town Hall facilities by outside organizations or for special events sponsored by municipal departments; and to determine that no more than \$20,000 may be expended from the Facilities Department revolving fund from monies transferred into said fund during FY'2015 (Source of funds: user fees); and
- h. a Shellfish Department revolving fund, said funds to be used for enhancements to the shellfish resources of the Town, and to determine that no more than \$15,000 may be expended by the Shellfish Commissioners from monies transferred into said fund during any given fiscal year (Source of funds: surcharge on commercial shellfish licenses), or to take any other action relative thereto.

Moderator's Declaration: Passes Unanimously

ARTICLE 3

Finance Committee Election

A MOTION was made by Michael J. Schaaf, and duly seconded, to

Elect Janice Skelton to the Finance Committee for a term of three years.

Moderator's Declaration: Passes Unanimously

Senator Bruce Tarr recognized Larry Seidler for his dedication and commitment to the Town as a member of the Finance Committee and presented Patrick J. McNally with a citation for his leadership, long hours and commitment to the Town of Ipswich as a member of the Planning Board and of the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 4

Municipal Budget Amendments

A MOTION was made by Charles D. Surpitski, and duly seconded, to
Indefinitely postpone this Article

Moderator's Declaration: Carries Unanimously

ARTICLE 5

Electronic Voting System

A MOTION was made by Philip J. Goguen, and duly seconded, to

Direct the Board of Selectmen and the Town Moderator to accept from Options Technologies Interactive their offer of a no cost turnkey demonstration of electronic voting system, such demonstrations to be in conjunction with the next special town meeting.

A MOTION was made by Michael Schaaf and duly seconded, to

Refer this matter to a committee of three (called the "Ad Hoc Electronic Voting Advisory Committee") to be appointed as soon as possible and to be composed as follows:

1. one person to be appointed by the Finance Committee
2. one person to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, and
3. one person to be appointed by the Moderator

and that the Ad Hoc Electronic Voting Advisory Committee study this issue and report to the Finance Committee by September 1, 2014, with their detailed recommendation as to whether to proceed with Electronic Voting in any or all future town meetings and, if so how.

Moderator's Declaration: Mr. Schaaf's Motion Carries (Yes 385-NO 234)

ARTICLE 6

Amend the Action taken under Article 4 of 2013 Annual Town Meeting

A MOTION was made by Patrick J. McNally, and duly seconded, to

Amend the Town's action taken under Article 4 of the May 14, 2013 Annual Town Meeting (Chapter 90) by reducing the amount from \$663,485 to \$442,110, which was the actual sum allocated from the State for highway improvements under the authority M.G.L. Chapter 90.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries Unanimously

ARTICLE 7

Chapter 90

A MOTION was made by Patrick J. McNally, and duly seconded, to

Appropriate the sum of \$444,004 for highway improvements under the authority of M.G.L. Chapter 90, or any such applicable laws, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, if necessary, to apply for, accept and borrow in anticipation of State aid for such projects.

Moderator's Declaration: Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 8

FY'2015 Municipal Budget

A MOTION was made by Charles D. Surpitski, and duly seconded, to

Appropriate the sum of \$20,998,520 for the FY'15 municipal budget to be expended as follows:

General Government	\$ 1,495,859
Planning & Community Development	\$ 519,326
Public Safety	\$ 4,575,843
Public Works	\$ 3,832,824
Community & Cultural Services	\$ 1,283,444
Benefits & Other	\$ 4,361,075

For a General Fund Total of \$16,068,371; and

Water Department	\$ 2,993,840
Wastewater Department	\$ 1,936,309

And that the following sums be raised and appropriated or transferred to fund the FY'2015 budget:

Tourism Account	\$ 1,000
Debt Premium	\$ 3,689
Overlay Surplus	\$ 75,000
Waterway Improvements Fund	\$ 86,629
Raise & Appropriate	\$ 15,902,053
Water Receipts	\$ 2,776,182
Water Reserves	\$ 217,658
Wastewater Receipts	\$ 1,751,139
Wastewater Reserves	\$ 185,170

And to authorize the town to enter into lease-purchase contracts for equipment having a term of five or less years.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries Unanimously

ARTICLE 9

FY'2015 School Budget

A MOTION was made by Barry W. Hopping, and duly seconded, to

Transfer the sum of \$75,000 from the Overlay Surplus account and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 25,800,094 for a total of \$ 25,875,094 to fund the FY 2015 School Budget and to hear and act upon the reports of the School Committee and Finance Committee relative to the Fiscal 2015 School Department budget and to raise, appropriate, transfer money from available funds, and change the purpose of the unexpended balances of prior appropriations, all to be used for the ensuing year's operations and debt service, including entering into lease-purchase agreements having a term of five years or less for a school bus and/or for other purposes; and to act upon a request to reauthorize existing revolving funds pursuant to State law.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries Unanimously

Barry Hopping recognized Rachel Rossler, outgoing School Committee member and Maddy Warner, Student Representative to the School Committee for their work as members of the School Committee.

ARTICLE 10

School Override

A MOTION was made by Carl Nylan, and duly seconded, to

Raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 2,750,000 for the FY 2015 School Budget, provided that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of a proposition 2 ½ referendum question pursuant to provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 21C.

The Moderator called for a show of hands to end debate and the Moderator declared by a 2/3 vote that the debate should end.

Moderator's Declaration: Main Motion Carried

ARTICLE 11

FY'2015 Whittier Regional High School Budget

A MOTION was made by Hugh M. O'Flynn, and duly seconded, to

Raise and appropriate the sum of \$422,303 from available funds to cover the Town's share of the ensuing year's annual operating and debt service expenses of the Whittier Regional Vocational School.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries by a Majority

ARTICLE 12

FY15 Essex County Technical Institute Budget

A MOTION was made by Hugh M. O'Flynn, and duly seconded, to

Raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 295,020 for Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School District (formerly Essex Regional Technical Institute) from available funds to cover the Town's share of the annual operation and debt service expenses.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries by a Majority

ARTICLE 13

Town By-Laws – Correct Chapter Numberings

A MOTION was made by Patrick J. McNally, and duly seconded, to

Amend the Chapter numbering of the Town of Ipswich By-laws as follows:

From: Chapter XIX – Ipswich Right to Farm By-law

To: Chapter XX – Ipswich Right to Farm By-law

From: Chapter XX – Keeping of Chickens on Residential Lots of Less Than One Acre

To: Chapter XXI – Keeping of Chickens on Residential Lots of Less Than One Acre

Moderator's Declaration: Carries Unanimously

The Moderator, Thomas R. Murphy, appointed James R. Engel as Temporary Moderator so that Mr. Murphy may make the Motion on Article 14.

ARTICLE 14

Amendments to Town Meeting Related By-Laws

A MOTION was made by Thomas R. Murphy, and duly seconded, to

Amend the General By-Laws of the Town of Ipswich as follows:

[Note: ~~striketrough~~ indicates deletions; ***bold italics*** indicates additions.]

1. By amending Chapter II, Section 6 (“Bond Appropriations”) as follows:

Section 6. Bond Appropriations

No appropriation to be raised by the bonds of the Town of Ipswich, except for an appropriation of an amount of less than one tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the current total equalized valuation of the Town for any purpose, shall be adopted unless ~~the article and~~ the motion calling for such appropriation first shall have received a two-thirds majority vote by Town Meeting, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as amended, after there has been ~~full~~ ***an*** opportunity for debate on the merits of the said article, and second shall have received a majority vote on a printed ballot. If ***the main motion under*** said article shall have received at ***least a*** 2/3rds majority vote of Town Meeting, the Board of Selectmen shall forthwith call for a special election for the purpose of voting on such appropriations, ~~set~~ ***said*** election to be called in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the Board of Selectmen may, but are not required to, vote to include a ballot question required by this section on the town’s annual election ballot, which vote will only be effective if the corresponding Annual Town Meeting has approved the ~~appropriate~~ ***corresponding motion*** pursuant to this section. ~~The statement of the purpose of the appropriation shall be substantially the same in the article as in the ballot question~~ ***The statement of the purpose of the ballot question shall be substantially the same as the statement of the purpose of the article for the corresponding Town Meeting; provided, however, that approval of a ballot question exempting the principal and interest on such bonds from the levy limit under G.L. c. 59, § 21C (“Proposition 2 ½”) shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of this Section.***

2. By amending Chapter III, Section 5 (“Rules for Conduct of Meetings”) by inserting the following sub-sections:

- (a) The proponent of any article(s) on the warrant for any town meeting shall submit the main motion(s) for the respective article(s) to the Moderator in writing at least three business days before the first day of such meeting.*
- (b) A subsidiary motion for indefinite postponement shall be out of order.*
- (c) Once final action has been taken under an article and the meeting has taken up the next order of business, or has adjourned, the subject matter of a given article may not again be taken under consideration unless, in the discretion of the Moderator, a significant error or omission occurred in the language or the process of the original action under that article, or a significant change in circumstances has occurred, such that there is a substantial likelihood that the outcome could change upon reconsideration or that reconsideration is in the Town’s best interest.*
- (d) Any errors, omissions or changes of circumstance referred to in sub-section (c) shall be brought to the Moderator’s attention as soon as practicable and the Moderator shall determine if and when the matter will be taken up anew. The Moderator shall announce that decision to the meeting and if the Moderator determines that the matter may be taken under consideration again, a two-thirds vote shall be necessary in order to proceed with reconsideration.*
- (e) Notwithstanding sub-sections (c) and (d), if after all other votes and reconsideration from the floor are complete under a given article and the appropriations voted appear to make necessary a ballot override vote (either levy, capital outlay, or debt exclusion) under G.L. c. 59, § 21C (“Proposition 2 ½”), then the conditions for reconsideration shall be deemed to have been met, and the Moderator shall accept a motion for reconsideration on any appropriation from the Finance Committee only, for the purpose of reducing any appropriations so as to meet the requirements of Proposition 2½, or for the purpose of making certain appropriations contingent upon an override vote on a printed ballot.*
- (f) Any member who moves the previous question immediately after speaking on a given topic shall be out of order.*
- (g) The Moderator may appoint a member of the meeting to perform the duties of the Moderator while the Moderator addresses the meeting, has a conflict of interest in presiding over a given matter, or is otherwise unavailable.*

On Motion of William Wasserman, duly seconded, it was voted to

Amend Mr. Murphy’s motion by deleting Section 2 (b).

Moderator’s Declaration: Main Motion Passes on a Majority Vote with Section 2 (b) deleted.

ARTICLE 15

Amend Sections 27 and 28 of the Charter

A MOTION was made by Patrick J. McNally, and duly seconded, to

Petition the General Court to amend Section 27 of the Town Charter, Estimates of Expenditures by changing the date on which the Town Manager is required to submit a draft budget to the Board of Selectmen from “December 10” to “no later than one hundred (100) days prior to the Annual Town Meeting”; And;

To amend Section 28 of the Town Charter, Annual Budgets by changing the date on which the Board of Selectmen is required to submit a proposed budget to the Finance Committee from “January 12” to “no later than 65 days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.” This act shall take effect upon its passage. To authorize the General Court to make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, except that the Board of Selectmen may approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

Moderator’s Declaration: Passes Unanimously

ARTICLE 16

Annual Capital Plan

A MOTION was made by William Craft, and duly seconded, to

Transfer from the Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$498,971 and also transfer from the Waterways Improvement Fund the sum of \$15,000 for funding the annual capital plan as amended,

Facilities:

Computer Equipment	\$29,000
Network Equipment	\$32,000
School Security System Improvement	\$50,000
Project Reserve	\$ 4,500
Payne – Repair Deck & Entrance	\$14,000
Doyon – Library Air Conditioner	\$10,000
Winthrop – Tile & Floor Replacement	\$45,000
Middle/High Schools - Repair Stage	\$11,000
Town Hall – Carpet Replacement	\$15,500
Town Hall – Replace COA Windows	\$20,000
Library – Replace Carpet Phase 2 of 2	\$15,500
Linebrook Station – Repair concrete Apron	\$ 7,000

Equipment:

DPW- Loader Year 1 of 5	\$35,404
DPW – Dump Truck with Plow Year 1 of 5	\$36,567
Police – Crossmatch Fingerprint System	\$25,000
Police – Replace Radar Units	\$11,500
Fire – Replace Administrative Vehicle	\$40,000
Fire – Set aside for pumper replacement	\$40,000
Fire – Set aside for SCBA replacement	\$20,000
Emergency Management- Message Board	\$17,000

Other:

Hammett Street Parking – On-going Design	\$20,000
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And to vote to transfer from the Waterways Funds the sum of \$50,000 for the following purposes:

Waterways Funds:

Floating Docks

\$15,000

Moderator's Declaration: Carries by a Declared 2/3 Vote

ARTICLE 17

Interior Painting of Library & Schools

A MOTION was made by William Craft, and duly seconded, to

Transfer from free cash the sum of \$89,000 for interior painting of buildings as follows: Library - \$24,000; Middle School/High School - \$35,000; Doyon School - \$30,000.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries by a Majority

ARTICLE 18

Town Website

A MOTION was made by William Craft, and duly seconded, to

Transfer from free cash the sum of \$34,100 for a municipal website for design, hosting and related website services to upgrade the Town website.

Moderator's Declaration: Passes by a Majority

ARTICLE 19

Public Safety Facility Feasibility Study

A MOTION was made by Charles D. Surpitsky, and duly seconded, to

Transfer from free cash the sum of \$100,000, for a Public Safety feasibility study and preliminary design of a new Public Safety Complex, located on the Elm St/South Main St/County St campus or an alternative site, as approved by the Board of Selectmen, of equal size and proximity to downtown, and any other services relative to this project.

A Motion was made by William Wasserman, and duly seconded, to indefinitely postpone this article.

Moderator's Declaration to Mr. Wasserman's motion: Failed (YES 179-NO 184)

Moderator's Declaration to Main Motion: Failed

ARTICLE 20

Athletic Field Engineering for Mile Lane

A MOTION was made by Nishan D. Mootafian, and duly seconded, to

Transfer from free cash the sum of \$70,000 for the engineering of Mile Lane Fields to complete engineering for field expansion and development activities related to Mile Lane fields, including design, permitting, bidding and construction related engineering services.

The Moderator declared that a Motion to Stop Debate carried.

Moderator's Declaration on the Main Motion: Failed

ARTICLE 21 Appropriation of Unexpended Bond Proceeds to Jeffrey's Neck Booster Station Equipment Replacement and Linebrook Road Water Main Replacement

A MOTION was made by Nishan D. Mootafian, and duly seconded, to

Vote that unexpended bond proceeds in the amount of \$69,178.17 borrowed under Article 17 of the October 16, 2000, Special Town Meeting appropriation to acquire a parcel of land on High Street to protect Browns Well water supply, which project is complete and for which no liability remains, be transferred and appropriated for the purpose of Jeffrey's Neck Booster Station equipment replacement and Linebrook Road water main replacement.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries by a Declared 2/3 Vote

ARTICLE 22 Appropriation of Unexpended Bond Proceeds to Water Main Replacement (Article 12, 2009 Town Meeting)

A MOTION was made by Nishan D. Mootafian, and duly seconded, to

Vote that unexpended bond proceeds in the amount of \$200,291 borrowed under Article 12 of the 2009 Annual Town Meeting appropriation for the purposes of the replacement of water mains on North Main Street (\$191,240) and Washington Street (\$9,051), which projects are complete and for which no liability remains, be transferred and appropriated for the purpose of replacement of water mains at other locations in Ipswich.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries by a Declared 2/3 Vote

ARTICLE 23 Historic Preservation Restriction Old North Burying Ground

A MOTION was made by Charles D. Surpitski, and duly seconded, to

Authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey an historic preservation restriction over a portion of a public cemetery on Town-owned land identified as Parcel 21 on Assessor's Map 30D, and having frontage on High Street, said restriction encumbering the cemetery to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by and through the Massachusetts Historical Commission, on such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate. A map showing the location, size and configuration of the above-described parcel is available in the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall;

Moderator's Declaration: Passes Unanimously

ARTICLE 24 Revisions to Flood Plain Regulations

A MOTION was made by Heidi Paek, and duly seconded, to

Vote to amend Section "IX. SPECIAL REGULATIONS, D. Flood Plain District" of the Protective Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Ipswich as follows:

(Proposed changes shown by use of ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted language and ***bold italics*** for new language.)

~~Section 1.01~~ "D. Floodplain District

1. Purpose: The purposes of the Floodplain District are to: ...

2. Applicability

The Floodplain District is established as an overlay district to all other zoning districts. It includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Ipswich designated as Zone A, ~~and~~ AE, *or* VE on the Essex County Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The map panels of the Essex County FIRMs that are wholly or partially within the Town of Ipswich are panel numbers 25009C0258F, 25009C0259F, 25009C0262F, 25009C0266F, 25009C0267F, 25009C0269F, **25009C0286F and 25009C0288F dated July 3, 2012; and** 25009C0276~~FG~~, 25009C0277~~FG~~, 25009C0278~~FG~~, 25009C0279~~FG~~, 25009C0281~~FG~~, 25009C0282~~FG~~, 25009C0283~~FG~~, 25009C0284~~FG~~, 25009C0286F, 25009C0287~~FG~~, ~~25009C0288F~~, 25009C0289~~FG~~, 25009C0291~~FG~~, 25009C0292~~FG~~, 25009C0293~~FG~~, 25009C0311~~FG~~, dated ~~7/03/12~~ **July 16, 2014**. The exact boundaries of the district may be defined by the 100-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Essex County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated ~~7/03/12~~ **July 16, 2014**. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference ...

Moderator's Declaration: Passes by a Declared 2/3 Vote

At 12:15 A.M. on May 14, 2014, the Moderator declared that the meeting would resume at 7:30 P.M on May 14, 2014.

The continued session of the May 13, 2014, meeting was called to order by Thomas R. Murphy, Moderator at 7:45 P.M. on May 14, 2014, a quorum present (202-200 required).

ARTICLE 25

Acceptance of Land

A MOTION was made by William Craft and duly seconded, to

Authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept as a gift a portion of Town land on High Street:

(1) 109 High Street, also known as parcel 19 on Assessor's Map 30B, a 6,800 square foot parcel located at the intersection of High and Avery Streets; and

Maps showing the location, size and configuration of the above-described parcel are available in the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall.

Moderator's Declaration: Carried by a Declared 2/3 Vote

ARTICLE 26

Sale of Town Land

A MOTION was made by William Craft, and duly seconded, to

Indefinitely postpone this article. Moderators Declaration: Failed

A MOTION was made by William Craft, and duly seconded, to

Authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell the following parcel of land: a 4,000^{+/-} square foot portion of the 19,250 square foot property at 32 Turkey Shore Road, further identified as a portion of parcel 53 on Assessor's Map 42A, subject to certain terms and conditions, which will include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

(a) the minimum sale price shall be \$4,150; (b) the buyer shall be responsible for all costs associated with the disposition of the parcel, including survey costs and recording fees; (c) no structures shall be built on the property besides the existing structure; and (d) the parcel shall be subject to a no-cut restriction;

Moderator's Declaration: Carries (YES 159 – NO 43)

ARTICLE 27

Additional Liquor Licenses

A MOTION was made by Patrick J. McNally, and duly seconded, to

Authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation in the form set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make only clerical or editorial changes to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court. The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments that shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

“An act authorizing the Town of Ipswich to issue two additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises to the establishments known as Bunz Burger, located at 20 Mitchell Road, Ipswich Massachusetts and Christopher DeStefano, located at 5 Depot Square, Ipswich Massachusetts.”

Section 1. Notwithstanding section 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, the licensing authority of the Town of Ipswich may issue two additional licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises under section 12 of said chapter 138 to the establishments known as Bunz Burger, located at 20 Mitchell Road, Ipswich Massachusetts and Christopher DeStefano, located at 5 Depot Square, Ipswich Massachusetts. The licenses shall be subject to all of said chapter 138 except said section 17.

The licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of the licenses to any other location, but it may grant the license to a new applicant at the same location if the applicant files the appropriate transfer of license application.

If the license granted under this act is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use, it shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto, to the licensing authority, which may then grant the license to a new applicant at the same location and under the same conditions as specified in this act.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Moderator's Declaration: Passes Unanimously

ARTICLE 28

OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits)

A MOTION was made by Charles D. Surpitski, and duly seconded, to

Transfer \$25,000 from free cash to the Other Post-Employment Benefits account (OPEB) as established under Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries by a Majority

ARTICLE 29

Stabilization Fund

A MOTION was made by Charles D. Surpitski, and duly seconded, to

To transfer \$25,000 from free cash to the Stabilization Fund.

Moderator's Declaration: Unanimously Voted

ARTICLE 30

Homeowner Protection

A MOTION was made by Fred Blum, and duly seconded, to

Vote that the Town vote to make voluntary any proposed Architectural Preservation District in the interest of both neighborliness and fair play; any proposed Architectural Preservation District ("APD") must be voluntary and not coercive for any homeowners in said District. Neither shall rules nor regulations be targeted for homeowners in the APD without their consent that are not equally shared by homeowners outside the APD.

Moderator's Declaration: Fails

ARTICLE 31

Finance Committee Report for Any Town Meeting

A MOTION was made by James R. Engel, and duly seconded, to

Amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Ipswich by adding a new subsection (e) to Chapter V, Section 3, as follows: (e) Any report of the Finance Committee on articles in the warrant for any Town Meeting shall be filed in the office of the Town Clerk not later than fifteen days before the date scheduled for the Town Meeting; and the Town Clerk, under the direction of the Town Manager, shall forthwith cause said report to be printed and a copy thereof to be distributed prior to said meeting to each registered voter in the town. And further to amend said Chapter V by deleting subsection (c) of Section 5.

Moderator's Declaration: Unanimously Voted

ARTICLE 32

Operational Audit of the Ipswich School System by an Outside Audit Firm

A MOTION was made by KelleyJane Kloub, and duly seconded, to

To direct the School committee and school superintendent to submit to a full operational audit of the Ipswich school system to be conducted by an outside audit firm specializing in school operational audits. The audit report would contain findings and recommendations which the School Committee and school superintendent would be required to present in an open meeting within four weeks of delivery of the report by the audit firm

The Board of Selectmen shall develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) and a scope of work in consultation with the School Committee with input from interested citizens. The audit firm will be selected by the Board of Selectmen after review of bids submitted as a result of the RFPs.

The operational audit shall commence within two months and be completed within eight months following approval of this article by the voters at Town Meeting.

Further, a transfer from free cash of an amount not to exceed \$75,000 is authorized for this purpose.

Definition of an Operational Audit: Operational audits (often called performance audits) examine the use of an organization's resources to evaluate whether those resources are being used in the most efficient and effective way to fulfill the organization's mission and objectives.

A Motion was made by Kevin Murphy, and duly seconded, it was voted to:

Refer this article to a School Audit Ad Hoc Committee which shall be composed of the following five members: one member of the Board of Selectmen, one member of the Finance Committee, one member of the School Committee, and two members from the Town citizenry to be chosen by those three members; that the School Audit Ad Hoc Committee be charged with responsibility of identifying specific areas of the school's operation and organization to be audited for efficiencies, cost saving measures and synergies; that the School Audit Ad Hoc Committee prepare requests for proposals (RFPs) for an audit based on the protocols, procedures, timelines, and metrics that the School Audit Ad Hoc Committee report its findings to the Finance Committee which shall report those findings to the next Annual Town Meeting; and furthermore to transfer up to \$50,000 from free cash to the School Audit Ad Hoc Committee to be used to fund such endeavors.

The Moderator moved the question.

Moderator's Declaration: Mr. Murphy's Motion Carries

ARTICLE 33 To request the Board of Selectmen and School Committee that no Override be brought before Town Meeting until an Operational Audit has been completed by an Outside Audit Firm specializing in schools

A MOTION was made by KelleyJane Kloub, and duly seconded, to

Indefinitely postpone this article

Moderator's Declaration: Carried Unanimously

ARTICLE 34 **Reconsideration of Linebrook Road Projects**

A MOTION was made by Linda Alexson and duly seconded, to

Rescind the \$3,000,000 borrowing which was subject to debt exclusion for the Linebrook Road reconstruction project approved at the May 14, 2013, Annual Town Meeting and by vote at the May 21, 2013, Town Election; and also to rescind the \$650,000 borrowing to fund reconstruction of a section of water main on Linebrook Road approved at the October 15, 2013, Special Town Meeting.

A Motion was made to call the question and the Motion Carried, Moderator's Declaration on Main Motion: Fails, A Motion to adjourn was made at 9:59 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Z. Carakatsane, CMMC/CMC
Town Clerk

**RECORD OF ACTION
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2014**

Pursuant to the foregoing Warrant, the legal voters of the Town of Ipswich met in the Ipswich High School/Middle School Performing Arts Center in said Town of Ipswich on Tuesday, October 21, 2014. A quorum being present (422 - 200 required), the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Mr. Thomas R. Murphy, at 7:18 P.M.

The counters for the evening, in the auditorium, were Bradford Clark, Irene Josephson, Michael Johnson, Kathy Bruce, Alexander Vanalen and Diane Young. The following students played stings in the auditorium prior to the start of the Town Meeting: Izabella Lidrbauch, Leah Harmon, Anna Gibbs, and Maggie Brown. Non registered persons were given permission to attend the meeting as spectators and were seated in the back of the auditorium. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Anna Gibbs. The Moderator also recognized retired Town employees who passed away during the year.

Article One **FY'2015 Town Budget Amendment**

A MOTION was made by William Craft, and duly seconded to

Amend the Town's action taken under Article 8 of the May 13, 2014 Annual Town Meeting (FY'2015 Municipal Operating Budget) by appropriating \$24,993 to the Miscellaneous Expense budget (Management Transfer Account) and to meet this appropriation by transferring \$24,993 from additional State Cherry Sheet Funds

Moderator's Declaration: Passes Unanimously

Article Two **FY'2015 School Budget Amendment**

A MOTION was made by Barry Hopping, and duly seconded to

Amend the Town's action taken under Article 9 of the May 13, 2014 Annual Town Meeting (FY'2015 School Operating Budget) by appropriating \$89,204 from additional Local Aid from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the School Department Budget

Moderator's Declaration: Passed Unanimously

Article Three **FY'2015 Special Education Costs**

A MOTION was made by Barry Hopping, and duly seconded to

Transfer the sum of \$300,000 from Free Cash to address unexpected expenditures in FY'2015 due to special education student programming.

Moderator's Declaration: Passed by a declared 2/3 vote

Article Four **Capital Plan Amendment**

A MOTION was made by William Craft, and duly seconded to

Amend the Town's action taken under Article 16 of the May 13, 2014 Annual Town Meeting (Annual Capital Plan) by voting that any funds remaining from the transfer of \$498,971 from the Capital Stabilization fund for capital projects be returned to the Capital Stabilization fund, and that any funds remaining from the transfer of \$15,000 from the Waterways Fund for floating docks be returned to the Waterways Fund.

Moderator's Declaration: Carried Unanimously

Article Five

Extraordinary Repairs

A MOTION was made by William Craft, and duly seconded to

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum \$21,300 from Free Cash for extraordinary repairs to school and town facilities as follows:

School Department:

Winthrop School:

Remove and Replace Urinals \$ 4,200

Doyon School:

Repair and Replace Front Gutters \$ 4,600

Middle/High School:

Repair and Replace Sinks in Women's Locker Rooms \$ 3,000

Public Works/Facilities:

Town Hall:

Reinforce Floor in Code Department \$ 9,500

Moderator's Declaration: Carried by declared 2/3 vote

Article Six

Storm Response Funds

A MOTION was made by Judy Field, and duly seconded to

Transfer the sum of \$107,000 from Free Cash to cover unbudgeted and unanticipated costs related to response and clean-up during and after the storms of September 6, 2014, to repair and upgrade radio antenna systems and to purchase and install a generator for the police station and to be apportioned to the FY '15 budget as follows:

Public Works \$ 20, 300 Public Works/Facilities \$ 60,000 Public Safety \$ 26,700

Moderator's Declaration: Passes unanimously

Article Seven

Transfer to Capital Stabilization Fund

A MOTION was made by Judy Field, and duly seconded to

Transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$ 650,000 to the Capital Stabilization Fund.

The Moderator declared that this passes by a 2/3 vote. More than seven registered voters stood up to call for a hand count.

Moderator's Declaration: Hand count passed (283 YES – 46 NO)

Article Eight

OPEB

A MOTION was made by July Field, and duly seconded to

Transfer from free cash the sum of \$100,000 to the **Other Post-Employment Benefits** account as established under Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General laws.

Moderator's Declaration: Passed by declared 2/3 vote

Article Nine

Adoption of Chapter 44 Section 53 F ½ (Enterprise Fund for Water)

A MOTION was made by Nishan Mootafian and duly seconded to

Approve Article 9 for the creation of a water enterprise fund pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, § 53F ½.

Moderator's Declaration: Passes unanimously

Article Ten

Feasibility Study Funding for Winthrop School

A MOTION was made by Nishan Mootafian, and duly seconded to

Appropriate the amount of nine hundred forty-five thousand (\$945,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study for the Winthrop Elementary School located at 65 Central Street in Ipswich and identified as Map 42A parcel 250 and consisting of 48,922 square feet, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA.

Moderator's Declaration: Declared Passed by 2/3 Vote

Article Eleven

LI and PC Zoning District Revisions

A MOTION was made by Keith Anderson, and duly seconded to Amend "V.D. Table of Use Regulations" of the Ipswich Protective Zoning Bylaw as shown below: (Strikethrough = language to be deleted; x = dash to be deleted; bold italics = language to be added.)

Moderator's Declaration: Declared Passed by 2/3 Vote

A MOTION was made by Keith Anderson, and duly seconded to

Amend “V.D. Table of Use Regulations” of the Ipswich Protective Zoning Bylaw as shown below:

(~~Strikethrough~~ = language to be deleted; ✕ = dash to be deleted; ***bold italics*** = language to be added.)

TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS						
PRINCIPAL USE	DISTRICT (Non-Residential)					
Commercial	GB ¹⁶	CB ¹⁶	HB ⁶	PC ¹⁶	I ¹⁶	LI ¹⁶
Hotels and Motels	P	P	P	SPB	P	✕ <i>SPB</i>
Inn, including conversion of an existing dwelling into an inn	P	P	P	✕ <i>P</i>	P	✕ <i>SBA</i>
Bed & Breakfast establishment...	P	P	P	P	P	P <i>SBA</i>
Personal & consumer service establishment	P	P	P	<i>P</i> ²⁴	SBA ²⁴	✕ <i>SBA</i>
Rest homes, convalescent home, or nursing homes...	—	—	—	✕ <i>SBA</i>	—	✕ <i>SBA</i>
Membership club	SBA	SBA	SBA	SBA	SBA	✕ <i>SBA</i>
Miscellaneous professionals and business offices and services...	P	P	P	P	P	✕ <i>P</i>
Motion picture establishment, indoor only	P	P	P	SBA	SBA	✕ <i>SBA</i>
Other amusements and recreation service, indoor only	P	P	P	SBA	SBA ²³	✕ <i>SBA</i>
Establishment for repair and/or service of new and/or used automobiles...	SPB		SPB	SPB ¹⁴	SPB	✕ <i>SBA</i> ¹⁴
Wholesale, Transportation and Industrial						
Laundry plant, dry cleaning plant or non-retail bakery	P	SBA	P	✕ <i>SBA</i>	P	✕ <i>SBA</i>
<i>Non-retail bakery</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>SBA</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>P</i>

A MOTION was made by Heidi Paek, and duly seconded to

Amend the Ipswich Protective Zoning Bylaw as follows:

(Strikethrough=language to be deleted; bold italics= language to be added)

Amend the Table of Use Regulations in Section V. as shown below:

TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS											
ACCESSORY USE				DISTRICT (Non-Residential)							
				GB	CB	HB	PC	I	LI		
<i>Tasting associated with commercial breweries, wineries, distilleries, and other alcohol production facilities.</i>				<i>P³⁸</i>	<i>P³⁸</i>	<i>P³⁸</i>	<i>P³⁸</i>	<i>P³⁸</i>	<i>P³⁸</i>		
ACCESSORY USE		DISTRICT									
		RRA ¹⁶	RRB ¹⁶	RRC ¹⁶	IR ¹⁶	GB ¹⁶	CB ¹⁶	HB ¹⁶	PC ¹⁶	I ¹⁶	LI ¹⁶
Ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations		P ³⁶	P ³⁶	P ³⁶	P ³⁶	P ³⁶	P ³⁶	P ³⁶	P ³⁶	P ³⁶	P ³⁶

1) Amend the Footnotes to Use Regulations in Section V by adding a footnote “38”, to read as follows:

“38. Provided that: (1) the operator of the tour or tasting can demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the building inspector, that safeguards and procedures are in place to protect the public from hazards associated with the facility’s operations; (2) no part of the tasting is conducted outdoors; (3) no more than twenty-five (25) persons are allowed per tour, or served per tasting; and (4) no more than ten tours or tastings are held per week. Operators seeking to conduct tours or tastings that exceed the above thresholds may do so only by special permit from the ZBA.”

2) Amend Section “VII.D.” as follows:

“No parking space shall be used for any activity which interferes with its availability to meet the minimal applicable parking requirement. Accessory uses are permitted and may include, but not be limited to, necessary traffic directional signs not exceeding two (2) square feet each in area, ***electric vehicle charging stations, solar energy collection apparatus***, lighting fixtures for illuminating the parking area, and landscape within buffer areas.”

3) Amend “XI.J.” by revising criterion “(6)” as shown below:

“In making this determination, the SPGA shall apply the following criteria:

- (1) Social, economic or community needs which are served by proposal;
- (2) Potential fiscal impact, including impact on town services, tax base, and employment;
- (3) Traffic flow and safety, including parking, loading;
- (4) Adequacy of utilities and other public services;

- (5) Compatibility with neighborhood character; and
- (6) Impacts on the natural *and built* environment.”

4) Amend “IX.I. 4.” by adding a new criterion “(5)”, said criterion to read as follows:

“(5) For commercial units that were initially used for residential purposes that the owner seeks to re-establish as dwelling units, the Board may either partially or fully exempt the dwelling unit from the requirements of paragraph 3.1.(2) of this Section I.”.

Moderator’s Declaration: Passes Unanimously

Article Thirteen

Rezoning of 71 Turnpike Road

A MOTION was made by Heidi Paek and duly seconded to

Amend the Official Zoning Map of the Town of Ipswich by rezoning a portion of the property at 71 Turnpike Road, further known as Parcel 25 on Assessor’s Map 27C, from Rural Residence A (RRA) to Planned Commercial (PC), as shown on the attached map. A copy of the map is on file in the office of the Town Clerk and the Department of Planning & Development.

Moderator’s Declaration: Failed (YES 113 – NO 114) (2/3 Vote Required)

Article Fourteen

Architectural Preservation District (APD)

A MOTION was made by John Fiske and duly seconded to

Amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Ipswich by adding a new Chapter XXII, to read as follows:

“CHAPTER XXII. ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION DISTRICT

The Town of Ipswich hereby establishes an Architectural Preservation District (“APD”), to be administered by an Architectural Preservation District Commission (“APDC”).

Section 1: Purpose

This bylaw is enacted under the Home Rule Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution for the purposes of:

- (a) preserving and protecting groups of historically and/or architecturally significant buildings and the characteristics of their neighborhoods that are important to the town’s architectural, cultural, economic, political and/or social history;
- (b) fostering wider public knowledge and appreciation of such neighborhoods and buildings;
- (c) limiting the detrimental effect of alterations, additions, demolitions and new construction on the character of such buildings and their neighborhood settings;
- (d) reviewing proposed alterations, which include demolition, substantial additions, and new construction, of or to any buildings located within the APD, for appropriateness and compatibility with the existing buildings, setting and neighborhood character; and
- (e) facilitating the protection of the APD through a combination of binding and voluntary non-binding regulatory review.

To achieve these purposes, the Town of Ipswich may designate APDs to be administered as set forth in this bylaw.

Section 2: Definitions

For the purpose of this bylaw, the terms and words listed below shall have the following meaning:

ADDITION, SUBSTANTIAL: Any addition to a principal or accessory contributing building that increases the existing gross floor area by 1,000 square feet or by thirty percent (30%) or more, whichever is less. Multiple additions that occur within a consecutive three-year period which collectively increase the building's gross floor area as described above shall also constitute a Substantial Addition.

ALTERATION: A change to a building or part thereof, such as removal, construction, reconstruction, restoration, replication, rehabilitation, addition, or demolition; and/or a change to a site that includes constructing, placing, erecting, installing, enlarging or moving a building and other similar activities.

ALTERATION, SUBSTANTIAL EXTERIOR: An Alteration to the exterior of a contributing building which bears a cost that equals or exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the assessed value of the structure before the Alteration is undertaken, or which significantly changes the shape, height and proportions, or scale of the building, and/or its relationship to surrounding structures along the streetscape.

ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION DISTRICT ("APD"): An area of historic and/or architectural significance determined by the Town's residents to be worthy of preservation.

BINDING REVIEW: Pursuant to Section 8 of this bylaw, a mandatory process which applies to demolition, substantial alterations, and new construction of buildings on contributing properties in an APD.

BUILDING: A combination of materials having a roof, the purpose of which is the shelter of persons, animals, property, or processes.

CERTIFICATE TO ALTER: A document issued by the APDC allowing Alterations which require review pursuant to Section 8 of this bylaw.

CONTRIBUTING PROPERTY: Any building within an APD that was constructed prior to 1900 and which contributes to its historical character, or any house lot within the APD which was either vacant prior to the adoption of this bylaw or subsequently becomes vacant due to the demolition of its principal building.

DEMOLITION: The act of pulling down, destroying, removing or razing structures or significant parts of structures, or commencing the work of total or substantial destruction with the intent of completing the same.

DESIGN GUIDELINES: A public document which provides further detail and illustration of the design standards established in Section 9 of this bylaw. Such guidelines, by facilitating the APDC's determination as to whether proposed alterations are appropriate and compatible with the existing buildings, setting and neighborhood character of the APD, will ensure fair, reasonable and objective preservation practices by the APDC.

NON-BINDING VOLUNTARY REVIEW: A review offered by the APDC for Alterations as described in Section 7 of this bylaw.

PERSON AGGRIEVED: The owner of the subject property or an owner of real property located within the APD and within three hundred feet of the subject property.

SUBSTITUTE SIDING: A siding material that has been placed over or has replaced the original wood siding of a building. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, aluminum, vinyl, or asphalt siding.

Section 3: Designation of Architectural Preservation District (APD)

The APD shall, by town meeting vote, encompass the area shown on the map entitled “Proposed Architectural Preservation District, dated September 3, 2014,” and appended to this bylaw. Amendments to the district boundaries may be made only by vote of Town Meeting.

Section 4: Architectural Preservation District Commission (APDC)

The Board of Selectmen shall appoint a five-member APDC to oversee the APD pursuant to this bylaw. Initially, two members shall be appointed for one year, two for two years, and one for three years; each successive appointment shall be made for three years. The Board of Selectmen may also appoint up to two alternate members, initially for terms of one, two and three years, and for three-year terms thereafter. If members are absent, unable to act, or recused from voting due to a conflict of interest, the APDC chair may designate one or both of the alternate members to serve in their place.

To the extent achievable, the APDC shall be comprised of the following persons: a member of the Ipswich Historical Commission; an architectural designer; a craftsman or building contractor familiar with historic restoration; and two residents of the APD. Members and alternates of the APDC shall by reason of experience and/or education have demonstrable knowledge, interest, and ability to effectively carry out the APDC’s responsibilities.

Section 5: APDC Powers and Duties

The APDC shall exercise its powers in reviewing the construction, demolition and/or alteration of buildings within the APD as set forth in this bylaw, and in accordance with the standards described in Section 9. Within 180 days of its establishment, the APDC shall adopt design guidelines to assist the APDC determine whether the proposal satisfies the standards described in Section 9, as well as to facilitate owner understanding of, and compliance with, those standards. The APDC may also promulgate rules and regulations consistent with the provisions of this bylaw, or set forth such forms and procedures as it deems appropriate for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business, including requirements for the contents and form of applications for certificates, hearing procedures and other matters.

In adopting design guidelines and rules and regulations, including any subsequent amendments, the APDC shall first hold a duly posted public hearing advertised at least fourteen (14) days in advance within a newspaper of local circulation.

The APDC shall not adopt or amend any design guidelines or rules and regulations until at least thirty-five days after the APDC has provided a copy of those proposed guidelines or regulations to the Board of Selectmen.

Section 6: Exemptions

The following are exempt from the requirements of this bylaw:

- (a) Routine maintenance of buildings.
- (b) Repairs or improvements which do not require a building or demolition permit from the Building Inspector.
- (c) Temporary buildings (subject to time and size limits imposed by the APDC).
- (d) Interior building alterations.
- (e) Exterior building colors.
- (f) Installation or replacement of storm windows and doors, screen windows and doors.
- (g) Removal or replacement of gutters, downspouts, window and door shutters.
- (h) Removal of substitute siding from a building.
- (i) Structures not defined as buildings or parts of buildings.
- (j) Reconstruction of a building damaged or destroyed by fire, storm or other disaster, provided that the reconstruction is completed in a manner that is consistent with other local bylaws. For a Contributing Property the owner is encouraged to reconstruct the building, to the greatest extent possible, to conform to its original size and appearance; for a non-Contributing Property the owner is encouraged to reconstruct the building to conform to the design standards in Section 9 and the associated design guidelines.

Section 7: Alterations for which Advisory Review is Recommended

Property owners undertaking alterations to a Contributing Property are strongly encouraged, but not required, to request an advisory review from the APDC for the following improvements:

- (a) Accessibility improvements, including ramps, rails, walkways and mechanical equipment associated with exterior architectural barriers subject to MGL 40A and other applicable state or federal laws;
- (b) Replacement of windows, doors, architectural trim, roofing and siding in a manner that substantially differs from existing materials, design or dimensions;
- (c) Construction of a fully-enclosed addition to a structure that increases its gross floor area by less than 1,000 square feet or by less than 30%, whichever is less, or by construction of a structure that does not have a roof or is not fully enclosed by load-bearing walls, including the replacement and extension of a porch or deck;
- (d) Installation of solar collectors or wind energy collection systems; and
- (e) Any other alteration not classified as routine maintenance that does not increase building volume.

Advisory review does not require a public hearing, is non-binding, and can be requested electronically. In providing advisory review for a proposed Alteration, the APDC shall make a finding as to whether or not the proposed Alteration is compatible with the standards in Section 9 and the associated design guidelines. The APDC shall provide its finding in writing and within 20 days of receiving a request for advisory review. The advisory may include recommendations on how the proposed Alteration could be made more consistent with the standards and the design guidelines.

Section 8: Alterations Which Require APDC Review

The following Alterations require the submittal of an application for review by the APDC:

- (a) Demolition of a building or part of a building on a Contributing Property.
- (b) Substantial Exterior Alteration to a Contributing Property.
- (c) New construction of buildings on properties within the APD, including substantial additions fully enclosed by walls and a roof, but not including accessory buildings that are less than 250 square feet in area.

Applications should include a completed application form and photographs showing existing buildings and site conditions. For new construction and substantial exterior alteration, applicants should also provide building elevations showing the proposed configuration and building materials; a plan showing the approximate footprint and relationships of buildings to other structures, exterior circulation, and points of entry; and any other plans which may help to demonstrate the proposed building design. Applications can be submitted electronically, but applicants shall also provide one hard copy of the application to the Planning Office. If appropriate, the APDC may waive any or all of the requirements for design submittal and review.

Within thirty (30) days of the application submittal, a copy of which shall be filed with the Town Clerk, the APDC shall hold a public hearing on the application, said hearing to be noticed by an ad published at least once in a newspaper with local circulation fourteen (14) days or more before the hearing. Following the hearing, the APDC shall determine whether or not the proposed Alteration is consistent with the standards set forth in Section 9 and the associated design guidelines.

If the APDC determines by majority vote that the Alteration adheres to the standards and the design guidelines, it shall issue a Certificate to Alter, which may be subject to reasonable conditions that the APDC deems necessary and appropriate. If the APDC does not achieve a majority vote that the Alteration is compatible with the standards and the design guidelines, it shall make a negative determination.

The APDC's written determination shall be submitted to the property owner within twenty (20) days of the close of the public hearing, and no later than sixty (60) days after the submittal of an application, unless granted a time extension by the owner. In making its determination, the APDC shall provide a rationale for its action, including a description of how the alteration does or does not meet the standards set forth in Section 9 and the design guidelines. If the APDC makes a negative determination, it shall include recommendations on how the proposed Alterations may be modified to satisfy the APDC. Once the applicant modifies the Alterations in a manner that the APDC finds acceptable, the APDC shall issue a Certificate to Alter.

The determinations of the APDC relative to Alterations described in this Section 8, whether positive or negative, shall be binding on the applicant.

Section 9: Design Standards

When reviewing an application, the APDC shall consider the following standards which are intended to guide the property owner in the site development and building design, as well as the APDC in its review of proposed actions as described in Section 8 above:

- (a) Height and Proportions – The height, proportions, and relationship of height to width between windows, doors, signs and other architectural elements should be compatible with the architectural style and character of the building or structure.
- (b) Relation of Structures and Spaces – The relation of a structure to the open space between it and adjoining structures should be compatible with such relationships in the district.
- (c) Shape – The shape of roofs, windows, doors and other design elements should be compatible with the architectural style and character of the building.
- (d) Scale – The scale of a structure should be compatible with its architectural design style and character and that of the district.
- (e) Directional Expression – Building facades and other architectural design elements should be compatible with those of others in the district with regard to the dominant vertical or horizontal expression or direction related to use and historical or cultural character, as appropriate.

- (f) Garages and Accessory Buildings – Garages and accessory buildings should be sensitively integrated into the overall development, and should not be the predominant design feature when viewed from the street.

Section 10: Procedures for Issuance and Filing of APDC Determinations

Each Certificate to Alter or negative determination issued by the APDC shall be dated and signed by its chair or such other person designated by the APDC to sign certificates on its behalf. The APDC shall send a written copy of its actions to the property owner and shall file other copies with the office of the Town Clerk and the Building Inspector. The date of issuance of a certificate or negative determination shall be the date of its filing of other said copy with the office of the Town Clerk.

If the APDC should fail to submit a written determination within twenty (20) days of closing its public hearing, or within sixty (60) days of the submittal of a Certificate, or within such further time as the applicant may allow in writing, a Certificate to Alter shall be waived in favor of the property owner.

Section 11: Enforcement

The APDC is authorized to institute any actions it deems necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the requirements of this bylaw. In the event of a violation, the APDC shall not authorize the issuance of a building permit for construction or demolition until the violation has been corrected, or otherwise resolved to the satisfaction of the APDC. The APDC may designate the Building Inspector to act on its behalf and to enforce this bylaw under its direction.

Section 12: Coordination with Other Town Boards and Bylaws

- (a) Except as stated in “(b)” below, the APDC’s authority as established in this bylaw shall not supersede or interfere with the regulatory authority of other local or state boards or APDCs.
- (b) By exercise of this bylaw, the APDC assumes the authority of the Ipswich Historical Commission pursuant to Chapter XVI of these General Bylaws, relative to the proposed demolition of buildings built prior to 1900 and located within the APD.
- (c) The APDC shall make every effort to coordinate its review with that of other Town Boards.

Section 13: Appeal Procedure

Any Person Aggrieved by a determination of the APDC may appeal to the Superior Court within twenty (20) days of the filing of the disapproval with the Town Clerk.

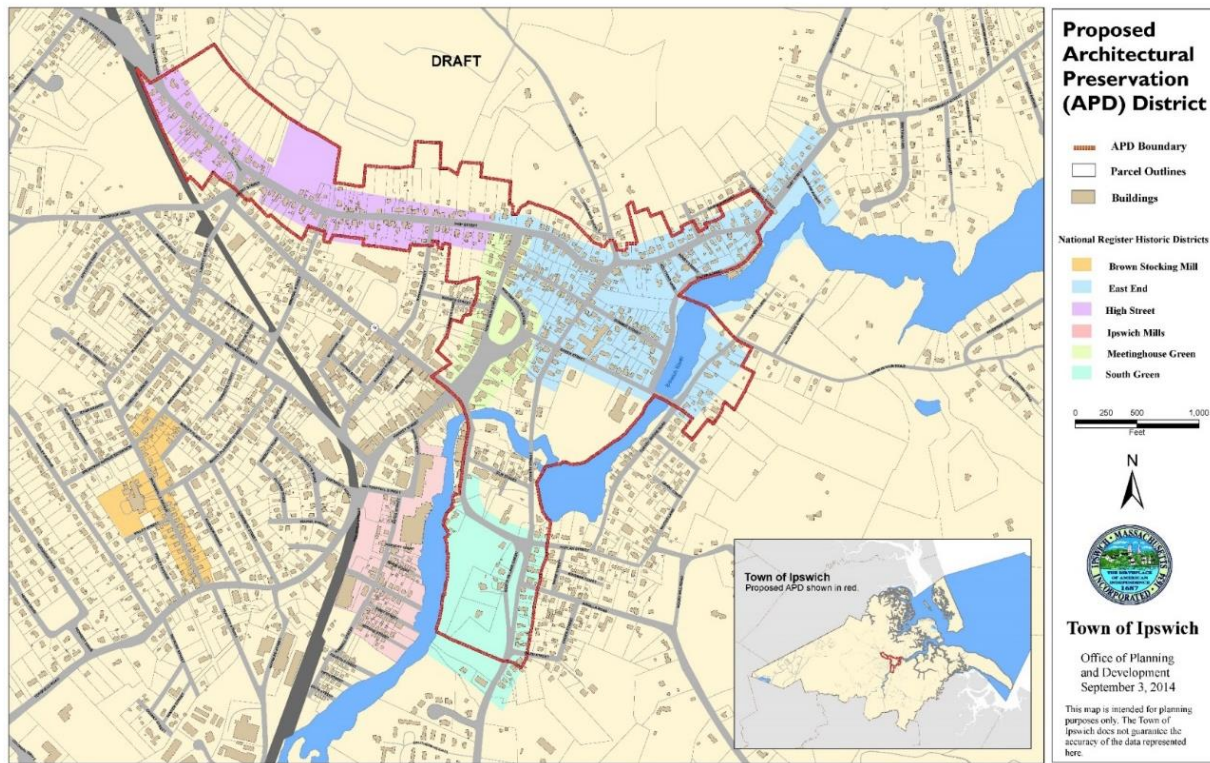
Section 14: Validity and Separability

The provisions of this bylaw shall be deemed to be separable. If any of its provisions, sections, subsections, sentences or clauses shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this bylaw shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 15: Rules and Regulations

The APDC shall promulgate and publish such rules and regulations as are deemed appropriate and consistent with the provisions of this bylaw.

Section 16: Appendices



Appendix A: The location and boundaries of the Town of Ipswich Architectural Preservation District are defined and shown on the Town of Ipswich Architectural Preservation District Map of the Town of Ipswich, which is a part of this bylaw.”; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Section 15: Rules and Regulations

The APDC shall promulgate and publish such rules and regulations as are deemed appropriate and consistent with the provisions of this bylaw.

Section 16: Appendices, Appendix A: The location and boundaries of the Town of Ipswich Architectural Preservation District are defined and shown on the Town of Ipswich Architectural Preservation District Map of the Town of Ipswich, which is a part of this bylaw.”

Section 16: Appendices, Appendix A: The location and boundaries of the Town of Ipswich Architectural Preservation District are defined and shown on the Town of Ipswich Architectural Preservation District Map of the Town of Ipswich, which is a part of this bylaw.”

A MOTION TO AMEND was made by James Engel, and duly seconded to

Delete, under Section 11, all text beginning with the phrase “The APDC is authorized to institute any actions it deems necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the requirements of this bylaw. In the event of a violation, the APDC shall not authorize the issuance of a building permit for construction or demolition until the violation has been corrected, or otherwise resolved to the satisfaction of the APDC. The APDC may designate the Building Inspector to act on its behalf and to enforce this bylaw under its direction.”

A MOTION TO AMEND was made by Janice Clements-Skelton, and duly seconded to

Make the following deletions to the respective sections of this Article:

Section 2. Definitions – by deleting the definitions of “Binding Review” and “Certificate to Alter”

Section 8. Alterations Which Require APDC Review - by deleting this entire section

Section 10. Procedures for Issuance and Filing of APDC Determinations – by deleting the second paragraph of this section

Section 13. Appeal Procedure – by deleting this entire section

Moderator's Declaration:

- 1. A Motion to stop debate passed by a Declared 2/3 vote;**
- 2. The Motion to Amend by Mr. Engel CARRIED;**
- 3. The Motion to Amend by Ms. Clements-Skelton FAILED;**
- 4. The Main Motion by Mr. Fiske CARRIED as amended by Mr. Engel.**

At 10:58 PM, a MOTION was made by Christine Slavin to extend the meeting to finish all articles.

Article Fifteen

Open Space Bond List

A MOTION was made by Wayne Castonguay, and duly seconded to

Add the following parcels to the Open Space Parcels List (as referenced in Article 18 of the Warrant for the April 3, 2000 Annual Town Meeting) on file in the office of the Director of Planning and Development and in the office of the Town Clerk, said changes having been placed on file in the office of the Director of Planning and Development and in the office of the Town Clerk by September 25, 2014:

- 1) Land now or formerly of Miles River Sand and Gravel, Inc., 56, 64 and 68 Paradise Road, also known as Assessor's Map 21, Parcels 28, 29A and 29, consisting of approximately 201.5 acres;
- 2) Land now or formerly of the Belosselsky Ipswich Realty Trust, 31 Fox Creek Road, also known as Assessor's Map 44, Parcel 9, consisting of approximately 577.1 acres;
- 3) Land commonly known as Perkins or Treadwell Island, now or formerly of the Perkins Island Nominee Realty Trust, also known as Assessor's Map 32, Parcel 2, consisting of approximately 135 acres.

Moderator's Declaration: Carries by a majority

On Motion of William Craft, duly seconded, it was voted to dissolve the meeting at 11:20 PM.

**Respectfully submitted, Pamela Z. Carakatsane, CMMC/CMC
Town Clerk**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

William Craft, Chair

Ipswich is an extraordinary community with many points of pride. We are proud of our history and our historic homes. We are proud of our open spaces and our nation's oldest continuously operating farm. We are proud of the expanse and beauty of Crane Beach. We are proud of our young people—the scholars, the athletes, the geeks, the musicians and artists and those who volunteer and give back to the community. We are proud of those individuals and corporations who create and maintain our local economy and those who contribute to the global economy. We are proud of those who dedicate their careers to public service and work hard to ensure that Ipswich lives up to and often exceeds our expectations for municipal and school services. Making Ipswich our special place depends on all of our citizens each making their contribution.

In reflecting on 2014 it is important that the Board of Selectmen recognize and thank all of you who have worked hard and contributed to a successful year. Highlights include:

- The Re-creation department's schedule of lively and engaging community and cultural events.
- Welcoming talented new leaders—Director Don Newell in the Electric Department and Chief Gregory Gagnon in the Fire Department.
- Continuing to follow our capital plan with some \$500,000 in needed improvements.
- Initiating one of the state's first "Green Crab" eradication programs in an effort to reduce the threat to our clam population and the great salt marsh.
- Responding to the September 6, 2014 weather emergency in a manner that engendered positive recognition and praise.
- Planning forward with our three town utilities, Water, Waste Water and Electric in order to anticipate and meet customer requirements and ensure minimal disruption to critical services during unpredictable weather and other emergencies.
- Continuing focus on processes and policies designed to improve overall town services – with particular emphasis on public works with equipment upgrades, planning and code enforcement and emergency management

As we look forward, 2015 will be a challenging year. Prominent municipal and utility projects will include reconstruction of Linebrook Road and the first phase of research and planning to reduce or eliminate manganese from water supplied by Browns Well. The Schools will be facing a major operating budget shortfall and likely will approach voters requesting a \$2.9 million Override. Failing to achieve support for the override, the Schools will be faced with a second year of significant reductions in personnel and much reduced services for students.

The Town and Schools continue to cooperate on facilities planning, both for ongoing maintenance and for the feasibility study focusing on the future of the Winthrop School. Although the Winthrop study requires a significant investment, nearly 50% will be funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This study will be invaluable in helping the School Committee and Town decide the future configuration of elementary schools in Ipswich. The Board of Selectmen wish to thank all of our residents for their continued support and ongoing contribution to making Ipswich an interesting and vibrant community and one of our nation's great places to live, work and play.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mitch Feldman, Chairman

The principal purpose of the Town of Ipswich Finance Committee is to make independent recommendations to Town Meeting concerning the annual Town and School budgets and all warrant articles. By doing so, the Finance Committee seeks to ensure the long term financial health of town government. Moreover, the Finance Committee seeks to guide the town's finances to contribute to a fulfilling quality of life for its citizens. We believe that this is achieved by efficiently providing capable schools, quality town services, and a well-maintained town infrastructure, all funded in part by a property tax rate that compares favorably with peer communities. The Committee reviews and considers any matter which may have a long or short-term fiscal impact on the town, including gathering relevant and accurate information from Town boards, departments, and employees. The Town Charter charges the Finance Committee with providing an annual report prior to the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting to registered Ipswich voters.

TOWN MANAGER

Robin Crosbie, Town Manager

In 2014, the Town Manager's Office continued working in three focus areas established in 2013: operational improvement, planning, and economic development.

Operational improvement includes developing closer working relationships among departments and between operations, and hiring the right people who promote high quality management values. In 2014, the Electric Light Manager Donald Newell was hired to lead the Electric Light Department. Under his leadership, communication and project collaboration with other town departments has noticeably improved. Don has undertaken long-term capital planning for the light plant and moved critical projects forward and improved processing payments and collections. Fire Chief Gregory Gagnon has become an integral part of the management team since his hire in spring 2014. Both Don and Greg brought experience that proved invaluable to the emergency management team during the September 6 microburst, which downed trees and cut power throughout town. Overall, promotions and new hires (to replace retiring employees) provided the town with an opportunity to engage enthusiastic and energetic personnel. Collective bargaining was completed for six of seven municipal bargaining units. Compensation inequities were corrected and extraordinary buyout provisions were exchanged for consistent and predictable compensation schedules.

Planning, coordination and implementation efforts in the Town Manager's Office continue on major undertakings, such as the feasibility study for Winthrop Elementary School; an on-going five-year capital planning process; Linebrook Road reconstruction; five-year water and wastewater budget plans; and the new town website, expected to come online in May 2015.

The Town Manager's Office continued its focus on economic development in 2014. A downtown study to assess the retail environment and make recommendations was presented to the public in early. As a result of the study, the town engaged a retail consultant to assist businesses, and offered consultation grant to five businesses. The Way Finding Task force completed the first phase of its work, and a way finding signage plan, recommended by the downtown assessment, will be implemented beginning in 2015 through the capital plan. These efforts will continue in the coming year, and residents should benefit from improvements and results as we move forward. Other efforts to support economic development are underway in 2015.

I sincerely thank citizens, department directors, staff and employees for their guidance, service, and for their on-going efforts at community improvements. As always, I invite Ipswich residents to visit the town website at www.ipswichma.gov to keep abreast of the many activities and projects underway in their town government.

PURCHASING AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Frank V. Antonucci, Management Services Director

The Management Services Department consists of Purchasing and Risk Management. Purchasing oversees the municipal purchase of all goods and services and public construction bids including some requested School Department bids. All goods and services expenditures over \$35,000 and all public works or building projects over \$10,000 are subject to public bidding requirements under Massachusetts General Laws. All bids and contract files are kept on file in the Purchasing Office for public review. Disposition of surplus town owned property including vehicles is also handled by the Purchasing Office.

Risk Management handles all insurance claims related to property damage claims including vehicles and general liability. Insurance renewals, loss reports, vehicle and property inventories are kept on file in the Purchasing Office. Risk Management also coordinates town and school departmental participation in the MIIA Rewards program which provides insurances premium discounts for safety trainings and policy planning activities that reduce operational risks. Management Services is also responsible for the compiling, editing, printing and the distribution of the Town Report.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul A. Nikas – Chief of Police

Jonathan Hubbard – Executive Officer

The year 2014 was a year of continued transition and change for the Police Department. Following the scheduled retirements of two officers in 2013, the Department operated the majority of 2014 with a 16% reduction in manpower (4 positions). After Ptl. David Moore graduated from the Police Academy in February, we had an officer transfer to a city department, closer to her residence. In April, the Department hired Ptl. Matthew Mayer as a full-time officer. As state law requires, we sent him to the 6 month long Police Academy in July so he was unavailable for patrol. He will graduate in January 2015. These staffing vacancies also impacted the command structure of the Department and required extensive promotional procedures, through Civil Service, to be conducted to ensure qualified personnel were promoted. A Lieutenant's Assessment Center was conducted by an independent firm, certified through Civil Service, to formally hire a full time Executive Officer. As a result of this extensive process, I am pleased to announce Jonathan Hubbard has been permanently promoted to Lieutenant. Additionally, with vacant sergeant positions available, numerous officers from the Department took part in the statewide Civil Service Sergeants Exam. As a result of that unbiased State run exam, two new Sergeants were promoted in May off the certified state list. The two new Sergeants are Daniel Kmiec & Eric Copithorne. In conjunction with the promotion of Lt Hubbard, these two new Sergeants will provide much needed rank structure and accountability within the Department.

Even with the new hires and the new Command Staff in place, the Department operated with an aggregate of four vacant officer positions throughout the year. Despite the lack of manpower, the Police Department had a very active year in terms of call volumes and professional development training. The Police log reflected a total of **19,549** calls for police services in 2014 which represents a **24.3% increase** from 2013. The total number arrests

increased by 38% in 2014, climbing from 113 arrests a year ago to 156 arrests this year. Also keeping officers busy was an increase of Medical Aids from 964 to 1104.

Each year the Department conducts an internal review of its calls for service to establish an overall assessment of the public safety needs in Ipswich and determine if officers have the necessary guidelines and training to address those needs. It was discovered that while Assaults, Breaking & Entering and general Disturbances all declined slightly, Felony Drug Arrests (+22%), Operating Under the Influence of Drugs or Alcohol (+44%) and Fraud/ ID Theft (+60%) increased drastically. Additionally, this recent internal study revealed that 16% of all service calls handled by Ipswich Officers are classified by the FBI as violent calls for service, with a high safety risk for officers.

As a result of the data collected in the past three years, in 2014 we began a yearlong comprehensive review and re-writing of the **Department Rules & Regulations** and the **Department Policies & Procedures**. This internal review process was completed in late 2014. This process allowed us to ensure the Department and its officers have the most up to date professional guidelines for the performance of their duties. These professional guidelines were based on new federal and state laws, new technology and federally accepted “best police practices.” These two guiding manuals were produced electronically and issued to every member of the Department electronically. In doing so, we were able to saved money on printing costs and provide us with a simpler mechanism to generate revisions when necessary. Additionally, the digital guidelines were uploaded to all Department computers and all cruiser laptops, providing officers access to the information whenever they are working.



While having new and updated Policies and Rules was needed, this was only one step in the process. Providing proper and timely training to officers became a goal in 2014 which will be carried forward in the coming years. Some examples included:

- Lt. Hubbard and I attended a two week seminar sponsored by the FBI on Command Leadership and Executive Training for local law enforcement executives.
- All sergeants attended a training class for Accountability & Responsibility for First-Line Supervisors and a Leadership in Excellence course through the Municipal Police Institute (MPI). MPI is a state approved training source for police officers, sponsored by the Mass Chiefs of Police Association.
- All police personnel attended In-Service training on legal updates, defensive tactics, use of force and dealing with Mentally Disabled Persons. In addition to classroom training, every officer completed mandatory firearms training at the range.
- A Field Training Officer (FTO) Program was finalized and will be placed into Department procedure in February, 2015. It will consist of a four week program that a new officer must pass or face possible termination. There are three patrolmen and a Sergeant assigned to the program. They are overseen by the Lieutenant, who provides me with monthly reports on each candidate's progress.
- Ofc Charles Ciccotelli completed training to be a National Highway Transportation Safety Association certified Drug Recognition Expert. This training allows the officer to testify as an expert witness in any court proceedings relative to a defendant's level of impairment based on drug use.
- An Officer was certified as a Narcan© Instructor. At this course the Officer was provided with policy guidance from the Region III OEMS Office to put together a Narcan© policy for Ipswich PD.
- Ofc. Aaron Woodworth completed a two week National DARE certification course in Concord NH. In addition to DARE, Ofc Woodworth was nationally certified as a SRO. He will be teaching 7th grade DARE this winter and be available to cover SRO Smith if needed.
- Sgt Jason Monteiro was nationally certified to be a Rape Aggressive Defense (RAD) Instructor. This certification is on a self-defense class offered to women only, which is taught by Law Enforcement personnel. Sgt Monteiro taught two local classes. One for Ipswich High School students and one for students at Pingree.
- Select Officers attended a two day class on Cell Phone Evidence and Preservation. This class provided training on new cell phone technologies and new warrant requirements for Law Enforcement personnel.
- The Department hosted a Patrol Officer Response to Active Shooter training class. This class was a tactical/live fire training course for patrol officers responding to an active shooter situation. Officers from as far away as Swansea participated in this course.

On the equipment front, the Department received its yearly purchase of two police cruisers. As many of you may now notice, the last of the 8-cylinder, rear wheel drive, Crown Victorians has been replaced. And while I feel a bit melancholy at seeing these iconic police vehicles disappear, the improved technology and efficiency of the new SUV's is incredible. Better gas mileage, less emissions, and yet improved performance is all that needs to

be said. A new computer server and in-house program called Digital Headquarters © was purchased and put into operation. This new computer system will provide a searchable database of all Department Policies, Operational Memos, Officer Safety alerts, “real time” Legal Updates from court decisions, scheduling/staffing updates, time off requests and vehicle condition check lists. This \$12,000 product was purchased through drug seizure money, at no cost to the Town. A new electronic fingerprinting computer, called Crossmatch ©, was purchased through the capital budget. The Department has signed and executed an agreement with the FBI and Massachusetts State Police Special Investigations Unit for access to the Federal and State AFIS database for criminal offender fingerprints.

The Department was awarded a total of \$19,500 for a series of State grants, which will carry over into 2015, for saturation patrols. This money comes through The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Highway Safety Division and is broken up into independent mobilizations throughout the year targeting speeding, impaired driving, distracted driving, aggressive driving, pedestrian safety, bicycle safety, and child safety seat classes.

The Public Safety Building Task Force failed to gain enough support from the Town to fund a \$100,000 study concerning the future of the Police & Fire Stations. Both of these facilities are among the oldest operating in the state. The buildings are too small for the Town’s public safety operations, they lack modern comforts for the personnel assigned to these building 24 hours a day, and the buildings are getting more expensive to maintain. Any solutions to this ongoing crisis only get more expensive from year to year. In 2015, the Task Force will revisit the issue and will be looking for the Town to support its Public Safety people. In the meantime, the Ipswich Police Department will continue to work closely with other Town Departments and agencies in an effort to address town-wide concerns and solve town-wide problems.

Ipswich Crime Statistics

Alarms	718	Animal Related Calls	275
Assaults	15	Assault Dangerous Weapon	5
Breaking and Entering	17	Disturbances	5
Domestic Complaints	63	Fraud/ID Theft	205
Larcenies	93	Medical Aids	1104
Suspicious Activity	408	Stolen Vehicle Recovery	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	278	M/V Citations	1404
OUI Arrests	39	M/V Arrest (Non OUI)	18
Adult Arrests/Summonses	156	Felony Drug Arrests	11



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Paul A. Nikas, Director of Public Safety

Paul E. Polonsky, Chief of Communications

Established in 1999, the Ipswich Public Safety Communications Center combines two former units - the police 911 and dispatch center and the fire alarm office - into one modern, high-tech facility. The Center is tasked with answering tens of thousands of emergency and non-emergency calls for the Town of Ipswich each year.

Professionally trained Emergency Telecommunications Dispatchers staff the Ipswich Public Safety Communications Center where they answer 911 and other emergency phones, monitor fire box alarms, and maintain round-the-clock radio communications with all police, fire and contract ambulance units. They dispatch to all emergencies and calls for service, help field personnel coordinate and manage any possible public safety event or incident, operate a variety of computer equipment with access to law enforcement and other information, answer questions from citizens, and provide a wide variety of other services for citizens and responders alike

All dispatchers undergo a three month in house training which includes but is not limited to, learning the Police and Fire Department's computer system, criminal justice procedures for verifying in state and out state warrants, procedures for running criminal background checks both in and out of state, procedures for running vehicle and operator licensing information through the Registry of Motor Vehicles computer systems in all states, becoming familiar with all streets and beats in the city as well as locations of businesses, radio etiquette, Ipswich Police and Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's), policies and procedures, and rules and regulations.

Upon completion of the above training all dispatchers are then required by the state of Massachusetts to be trained, tested and certified in the following before become full time dispatchers and going on their own:

- Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)
- Emergency 911 (E911)
- Forty hour offsite 911
- Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS)
- Incident Command Systems (ICS)
- A ride along with the Ipswich Fire Department
- A ride along with the Ipswich Police Department
- A ride along with the Harbor Division

Dispatchers need to be able to multi task and it is not uncommon for a dispatcher to be talking on the phone to a citizen, while entering call into the computer, talking to multiple officer's on the radio, running license plates or warrant checks all at the same time. 911 calls take priority and all dispatchers have the ability to multi task and know what's going on in the dispatcher center at all times including Police, Fire, and EMS. During storms dispatch is the main liaison between Police, Fire and other city agencies such as the highway department, water, department and any other city department that needs involvement. Dispatch is also the department's liaison to all utility companies, tow companies, and other law enforcement agencies.

All dispatchers undergo a rigorous background check before being hired by the department and must not have a criminal background or criminal record of any kind in any state.

In the year 2014, as well as past years, our Public Safety Communications Center has obtained nearly \$50,000.00 annually from State funded Grants through the 9-1-1 surcharge that's assessed on all phone bills to cover equipment upgrades and advanced training for all of our Communications Specialists.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jonathan Hubbard, Emergency Management Director

The previous year for Emergency Management was one of the busiest in recent history. The town was struck by two severe natural disasters.

The first disaster was the thunderstorm outbreak in September. On September 6, 2014 the Town was struck by three separate violent thunderstorms. Storm one developed almost directly on top of Ipswich and began producing vivid cloud to ground lighting. This storm came without warning and unfortunately resulted in the tragic death of two women trying to get off of Crane Beach.

The second storm that struck was a confirmed microburst with winds of 80-90mph. This caused significant damage and after the storm had passed 60 roads were blocked by trees and 2000 Ipswich Light customers were without power. The third storm hit shortly after and produced frequent cloud to ground lightening which caused a disruption in the public safety radios due to a lightning strike. The Town was put into a State of Emergency and a coordinated response began. Four hours after the storm had ended all roads were passable. Ipswich Emergency Management was assisted directly by MEMA and the State provided numerous assets to assist our town crews in clearing the roads and removing debris for three days after the storm.

The second disaster was the time period between January 24 and February 15th when the Town received a total of 103" of snow and the average temperature was only 18 degrees. This was the worst stretch of weather in history with two large blizzards happening and three other snow storms. Town crews worked nonstop to keep the roads open during the storms for emergency vehicles to travel. This is our number one priority during any storm. Ipswich Emergency Management coordinated with MEMA for outside help and MEMA provided crews from the New York Department of Transportation, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

The outside assistance that was provided totaled 440 man hours of work that was provided to the town free of charge to assist our crews in cleanup. I would like to thank the plow crews who worked non-stop plowing and moving snow for weeks on end without any time for rest.

All Town Departments worked and communicated well together. This made the large scale response to this long duration and overwhelming record breaking snowfall seem easily managed. The residents of the Town should be proud of the efforts that went into keeping emergency services at a high level during the worst of the conditions. Town residents should also be proud of themselves too. Residents did a good job staying off the roads and keeping their cars out of the way to allow the crews room to clear streets and also assisted shoveling hydrants. People remained patient and helpful to one another. The community rallied together during this storm and these efforts are very much appreciated.

We also have a strong volunteer program. We have a Community Emergency Response Team that is very active. They are all trained in shelter operations, radio communications, and first aid and CPR. They are also certified by the National Weather Service as Sky Warn weather spotters. They played crucial roles communicating with the NWS during the micro burst and the blizzards. During the microburst, our weather spotters were the first to get the information to the NWS and it was their reports that got our storm classified as a microburst. Also, during the winter storms, our weather spotters were continuously updating the National Weather Service about conditions here in Ipswich. We are hosting a NWS Sky Warn class refresher in May. Many of our volunteers are FCC licensed Ham radio operators and use these means of communication to coordinate with the NWS.

We are also trying to be more active with community outreach. We have begun a program with the two elementary schools based on the FEMA ReadyKids program. Once a week for 5 weeks we meet with 3rd-5th

grade students and teach them about emergency preparedness and the types of disasters we face here in this region and how to prepare for and what to do during an event.

I invite everyone to check our website and Facebook for updates and also for preparedness tips. Emergency Management starts at home. Please, take time to plan with your family in case a natural or manmade disaster strike. Also, please register with Smart911, which can be found on the Town of Ipswich Website for emergency notifications. We only receive landline telephone numbers in our database. You can update your information with your cell phone and email to ensure you receive important notifications. Also, when registering your Smart911 account, you can register a SmartPrepare account as well. SmartPrepare allows us to search for important information about you or your family in the event of an emergency. Also, if you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact me or stop by one of our meetings. We meet the third Wednesday of every month in the EOC at town hall. We provide interesting and informative training so you can learn how to assist yourself and your community in the event of a disaster.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Matt Anzack, Animal Control Officer

In 2014, the Animal Control TNR program did not have to release any cats back to their habitat due to behavior. The Ipswich Humane Group who shares the shelter with Animal Control, was very efficient in finding good homes for the 75 cats & kittens that came through, including longtime resident "The Mayor". With all the coverage in the news this spring about doggie DNA testing, it brought an awareness to Ipswich & surrounding communities about the serious effects of dog poop on the environment. It netted quite a few calls from people to report repeat offenders of people not properly disposing of their dog poop as well as people wanting more information. Even though the goal of creating a dog park still has not been filled, I am still ever hopeful as are many of you that we can get one up & running in 2015.

Dogs

- There are 2105 dogs listed to be licensed for 2014.
- 42 dogs picked up; 19 were after regular hours.
- 5 dogs were sent to **Paws With Inn** & adopted from there.
- 1 dog was hit by a motor vehicle.
- 9 dogs had to be quarantined due to biting or being bitten.
- 1 dog had to be euthanized due to behavior issues.
- 57 barking dog complaints
- 29 calls regarding people not picking up after their dogs or people looking for more details of the effects of dog poop on the environment

Cats

- 36 cats were picked up; 2 were returned to owners
- Additionally this fall, there were 28 cats and 15 kittens rescued from a single hoarding situation.
- 77 cats/kittens were adopted.
- 40 cats were issued quarantines for various causes.
- 88 wild animals had to be removed from the roads after being hit.
- 22 had to be euthanized.
- 5 calls from NOAA for seal observation.
- 1 reported bear sighting

Wildlife

- There were 367 calls about wildlife issues.
- 11 bats had to be removed from homes.
- 88 wild animals had to be removed from the roads after being hit.
- 22 had to be euthanized.
- 5 calls to NOAA for seal observation.
- 1 reported bear sighting.
- 4 specimens were sent to state lab for tests; 1 raccoon tested positive for rabies.

Agricultural

- 82 barn inspections
- 12 chicken permits issued
- 10 loose cows/horses/roaming chicken calls.

Law Enforcement

42 citations were written.

HARBORS DEPARTMENT

Paul A. Nikas – Chief of Police, Harbormaster

Lt. Jon Hubbard – Harbors Supervisor

Sgt. Eric Copithorne – Assistant Harbormaster Supervisor

Ptl. Brian Reed – Assistant Harbormaster (operator)

Ptl. Mathew Bodwell – Assistant Harbormaster (operator)

The 2014 boating season began for the Ipswich Harbor Department in early February with the annual renewal notices being sent out to all past mooring holders. This year marked the first formal request from the Town asking boaters to provide GPS coordinates on their mooring's location. In the coming year, GPS coordinates will become part of the mandatory information required during the mooring renewal process. Having GPS locations combined with a boat's length and the mooring chain's length, improves information on the boat's swing radius. This information will allow the Town to plot a mooring's swing radius into a computer and analyze specific mooring fields. With maps that include a swing radius, we can determine if mooring locations have been optimized with the available water space and whether the field is saturated. If a mooring field is not arraigned optimally, it will allow us to adjust a boat's mooring location to accommodate additional moorings.

Each year we attempt to improve our navigational aids by replacing old buoys or by adding new buoys. This past year we added four new buoys to aid in the safe and proper navigation of our waters, as well as to clearly mark "No Wake" zones and "Swim Area" zones. Please be vigilant in your adherence to these critical safety areas. As local boaters are too aware, the Ipswich Bay sandbar(s) shift every year and the Ipswich River is constantly changing her channel. Continual adjustments throughout the boating season are critical to prevent boaters from running aground and the assistance from the boating public is vital in this endeavor. Please notify the Assistant Harbormaster as soon as possible when you believe an adjustment is necessary or you discover a buoy is off station. Ipswich Harbor Officers assist and work closely with the United States Coast Guard in ensuring placement of ALL area channel markers area properly located. This includes the bell buoys located off the southern tip of Crane Beach and the buoys continuing into Plum Island Sound.

With last year's new SafeBoat© acquisition, we sold off the old Harbor's Patrol Boat using the State's open bid process. We received three quotes, with the winning sale price of \$15,555. This money, once certified, will be requested by my office to be returned to the Waterways Account, where the original appropriation for the boat purchase was funded.

A new replacement laptop was purchased for the Patrol Boat and installed inside the cabin. The new laptop contains all State and Federal waterway laws and provides us with computer access to On-line Mooring © which holds information on all Ipswich moorings. Since the new laptop has dramatically improved security and WiFi capabilities over the old laptop, we requested and were granted direct access to the Massachusetts's Environmental Police (EPO) Boater's Registration Database. This access follows state protocols through an executed "Memorandum of Understanding" between the two agencies. With this direct access, we no longer need to call the EPO's radio room in Boston to ask for boat information and wait for a response. Officers can now enter a hull registration number directly into the database and receive an immediate response on the owner of the boat, if the owner has a criminal record, if the owner has any outstanding warrants and the boat's physical description. This increased response time is invaluable for officer safety and for the safety of the public during a search & rescue operation, safety inspections or law enforcement actions.

Training for Harbor Officers is critical to improving their boating capabilities and ensuring they have the proper skills to meet the public safety needs of the boating public. In 2014, officers attended regional training with the USCG Gloucester Station personnel on Emergency Vessel Towing. This training was designed to improve our rescue capabilities in the event there is a drifting vessel in distress, where personal injury or environmental damage could exist. Emergency Towing skills are often needed to secure these drifting boats before they run aground and are damaged or colliding with another vessel. It is NOT designed to tow a broken down boat in no danger of causing environmental damage or injury to a person. For in-house training, officers participated in a training curriculum that includes both classroom and "on- water" training. The classroom portion concentrated on legal updates to boating laws, MGL CH 90B review and a familiarization of the Town's Shellfish Regulations. The Shellfish Regulations review was a new endeavor which allowed Harbor Officers to assist the Shellfish Constable with the enforcement of regulations and protection of the Town's shellfish resource. The "on-water" training consisted of vessel boarding procedures rescue drills and GPS search & rescue training. Both the Harbor Patrol Boat and Jetski were utilized during these training exercises.

Some other items of note that took place in the 2014 boating season included providing patrol boat and Jetski patrols during the School's annual Crane Beach Day. Officers provided a public safety presence during the Little Neck Association's annual "Float to the Beach" event. During this event, residents enter the water from the Little Neck dock and float down river to the Little Neck beach. Both events occurred without incident and a fun time was had by all involved.

The Department of Environmental Protection designated Ipswich Bay as a "No Discharge Zone" in 2011. This federal designation means no vessel is allowed to discharge waste from on-board sanitation systems anywhere in Ipswich Bay. Please be sure to utilize the Town's pump-out boat service. It is a **FREE** service and is for the benefit of all boaters, clammers, fisherman and water enthusiasts that our waters remain clean. In the 2014 boating season, the pump out boat removed **4,905 gallons** of effluent from area watercraft.

In closing, I want to remind everyone that Boating OUI is a crime and can result in serious injuries or deaths. I want everyone to enjoy the pristine waters and beaches Ipswich has to offer, but please drink responsibly if you are operating a boat.

Ipswich Harbor Statistics

Enforcement Actions	74
Mooring Permits	952
In-State Seasonal Launch Permits	234
Out of State Seasonal Launch Permits	0
Mooring Fees Collected	77,898
Calls for Service	170
Harbor Violations Issued	50
In-State Daily Launch Permits	459
Out of State Daily Launch Permits	26
Launch Fees Collected (Town Wharf)	\$12,180
Boat Excise Taxes (50%)	\$19,478

SHELLFISH DEPARTMENT

Scott LaPreste, Constable

Permits sold in 2014

Resident Commercial	102
Non Resident Yearly	115
Resident Family	85
Resident Yearly	161
Student Commercial	4
Over 70 Commercial	9
Over 60 Recreational	

From August through October the town's Green Crab trapping program trapped over 70,000 lbs. of green crabs. This program was a big success. Green crabs eat juvenile shellfish like oysters and soft shell clams. A small area in Eagle Hill Cove was seeded with juvenile soft shell clams in June as part of the ongoing enhancement program. These clams were covered with protective netting to prevent green crabs from eating the seed. Twice in December, Patterson's landing was improved with more crushed stone in drive path. Vegetation was also trimmed and pruned back.



IPSWICH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Greg Gagnon, Fire Chief

Calendar year 2014 was a year of transition for the Ipswich Fire Department. I took over as Chief of Department from interim Chief Jack Parow (ret). I would like to extend my appreciation and thanks to Chief Parow for his service to the town. The fire department responded to 2,128 calls for service in 2014. This is a ten percent increase over last year's total call volume. Fire Prevention conducted 479 inspections. Ff. Jeremy Dalton took over as the Public Fire and Life Safety Coordinator from Ff. Keith Carlson. This position oversees the Student Awareness Fire Education (SAFE) program and as the public educator for life safety, Jeremy is responsible for educating the public of all ages. During the year, 442 children received fire safety instruction as well as countless adults. The Ipswich Fire Department had two career firefighters graduate the Massachusetts Fire Academy in Stow. The graduates are Ff. Mike Sikora and Ff. Patrick Dingle. We also added two call firefighters, John Boyle and Matt Lemire. John Boyle is expected to complete academy training in early 2015. Matt Lemire has resigned to accept a position with the Ipswich Police Department. We completed our state required EMS Service Zone Plan which was accepted by the state. This now affiliates our department with Beverly Hospital for our medical control and dispensing. We are now able to add Nasal Narcan to the medications we carry.

Training continues to be a priority in the Ipswich Fire Department. This includes in house training with the call and career firefighters. Members have also taken course through the Massachusetts Fire Academy, the National Fire Academy and invited instructors. Topics covered include hazardous materials, EMS, safety and survival, among various others. The department worked with Action Ambulance to formalize our EMS training and bring it in line with the National EMS Registry standards due to the Commonwealth's adoption of these standards.

The VHF radio system of the fire department was brought into FCC compliance by meeting the agency's frequency narrow banding mandate.

Representatives from the ISO visited Ipswich this past year and met with the fire department, water department and emergency dispatch. By furnishing information and records the town's rating was improved to 4/10. This will result in a savings on the fire portion of most property insurance policies in town.

There were two capital projects completed in 2014. The remainder of large diameter hose replaced on the engines and a new administration vehicle was purchased.

September 6 brought an unexpected microburst through the town. During this event there was incredible interagency cooperation between the fire department, police department, utilities and public works. As a result of the storm, there was a need for repairs to our radio system and we added a back-up system in the event our primary system is damaged, as it was during the storm.

Just as our pumps and ladders are tested annually as required by the NFPA, our SCBA units, masks and bottles were tested as required. Going forward, we look forward to continuing to update our equipment and advance our training to provide the best service possible.

Fire Department Statistics 2014

Structure Fire	8	Good Intent Calls	83
Cooking Fire	3	Public Service Calls	308
Vehicle/Equipment Fire	5	Hazzard Conditions- No Fire	184
Other Outside Fires	17	Miscellaneous	2
Medical Aid	1,049	Mutual Aid/Line Box	32
Motor Vehicle Accident	121	Alarm Activations	316
Total			2,128

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORATE

Richard W. Clarke, Director

The Public Works Department is a customer-focused service organization, dedicated to maintaining and improving the town's infrastructure through the efforts of a professional town workforce, outsourced contracting and engineering consultants. With that as our operation, Public Works incorporates an ongoing review of what we do and how we do it, with the intent of delivering high quality service to our customers and enhancing the quality of life in our diverse community. Customer focus, continuous process improvement, human resource development, and resource management are the keys to our success. Public Works has accomplished or is working on the following items in support of our mission.

- Alignment of Public Works budgets, activity and resources with the expectations and goals of the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen
- Provide technical input to Town boards and commissions on special permits, subdivisions, site plan reviews and commercial and residential development that impact Public Works' Operations and Maintenance (O&M) responsibilities and budget
- Continued to work through the Storm Water Management Plan to comply with the Phase II Storm Water Rules and Regulations of the Federal Clean Water Act while also investigating new methods and processes to follow to stay in compliance with the upcoming Phase II Storm Water Permit
- Continued to use Vueworks, which is a Computerized Maintenance Management Software (CMMS) system for all Public Works Divisions to track work orders and service calls

- Continued to develop and implement Operations and Maintenance plans for existing water quality structures installed for storm water management
- Use of a pavement management plan to identify and prioritize roads in need of roadway improvements and maintenance as well as to determine what the recommended improvement or maintenance is for each roadway

HIGHWAY DIVISION

During the warmer months of 2014, the focus was on outdoor construction projects, where personnel skills and heavy equipment produce significant infrastructure repair and improvements to roads, sidewalks, public facilities and storm water structures. The DPW Highway Department, with the assistance of a local contractor, replaced approximately 200' feet of drain pipe on Avery Street and added two manholes to the system to improve the drain system prior to paving the street.

FORESTRY DIVISION

The focus of the Forestry Division in 2014 was on the maintenance of town trees along public ways, particularly on scenic roads and in town cemeteries, parks and open space. The Forestry budget is reimbursed by the Utilities Department for electric line clearing done for the Electric Light Division.

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE DIVISION

Closer inspection and additional preventive maintenance of vehicles extend the service life and reduce the maintenance costs of a public works fleet. In 2013, Public Works secured grant funding to perform a town wide Fleet Management Evaluation to determine what we can improve on and if the Town should be looking at consolidated Fleet Maintenance. The evaluation was completed in 2014 and recommended several areas for improvement. The installation of a wash facility would provide a place to rinse off the fleet to reduce the effects of corrosion and extend the life of vehicle bodies; the DPW is working with the Facilities Department on installing a more permanent vehicle wash bay.

TRANSFER STATION

Operated by members of the Highway Division, the Transfer Station is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8:00 AM until 3:30 PM. The Transfer Station accepts yard waste (specifically grass clippings, leaves, brush and small branches), books, textiles, rigid plastic items, tires with rims, fluorescent lights, and waste cooking oil. Residents who do not have JRM trash pickup may bring their recyclables (glass, cans, cardboard, paper, cartons, and plastics 1-7; no Styrofoam) for free to the Transfer Station and put them in the designated bins.

In the past three years, the Town has contracted with North Shore Scrap Metal to collect scrap metal (items with at least 60% metal, such as small appliances, outdoor furniture, grills, lawn mowers and snow blowers) at the Transfer Station. Approximately 70% of the proceeds from the metal recycling go to the Town. Large white goods, electrical appliances, televisions and

computer monitors can be disposed of curbside by scheduling and paying \$25 in advance to JRM directly at 978-536-2500.

Public Works' Special Collections are conducted twice yearly at the Transfer Station. We accept oil-based paints and related products, car batteries, items with mercury and tires without rims (mercury items are also accepted at the Public Works Office at the Town Hall during regular hours of operation). The fall special collection is held in conjunction with the DPW's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day to better serve residents.

SANITATION

Each pound of recyclable material diverted from the trash stream results in a reduction of our trash costs, because the Town is charged a tipping fee for every pound of trash collected. The total tonnage of solid waste in calendar year 2014 (2,847 tons) was a slight decrease of 11 tons (approximately .4%) over the 2013 total (2,858 tons). Although recycling rates nationally are down due to the manufacturing of lighter plastics (for beverages) and the drop in newspaper readership, Ipswich's recyclables increased in 2014 to 1,919 tons (from 1,895 tons in 2013). This increase in recycling, in conjunction with diverting these tons from the trash, saved the Town approximately \$119,000 in tipping fees.

Ipswich's pilot curbside composting program continues to grow, with 400 participants by the end of 2014. This curbside service, which residents join voluntarily and pay to receive, diverted approximately 141 tons of organics (food waste) from Ipswich's trash tonnage in 2014. The organics are delivered to Brick Ends Farm in Hamilton, Massachusetts, for composting.

The Ipswich Recycling Advisory Committee (RAC) holds three events annually, in February, May and September, for residents to dispose of their Styrofoam and electronics. Styrofoam recycling costs are paid by the RAC, and proceeds from the electronics recycling, for which there is a nominal fee to residents, are shared by various nonprofit organizations in town.

SNOW & ICE OPERATIONS

The winter of 2013-2014 was challenging for the Town employees and contractors who work to keep the roads, public sidewalks, schools and town parking lots safe and passable. The cost for snow and ice operations came under budget with some of the extra money going towards a sander for the new dump truck that was purchased in 2014. The DPW used approx. 3,397 tons of salt during snow and ice operations. Access for emergency response vehicles remains the top priority for town crews during snow and ice operation. Snow removal from sidewalks in close proximity to schools is also a high priority after roadways are cleared for students walking to school.



FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

William A. Hodge Sr. Facilities Director

Jane Spellman, Assistant to Facilities Director

This report contains the accomplished tasks of the Facilities Department during the calendar year 2014. Daily operations during this period included several major projects.

To begin the 2014 calendar year, the Town Facilities Department merged with the Town School District. The projected Facilities Department mission for 2014 was to improve the overall appearance, safety, and working and living conditions of the buildings within the Ipswich School District and the Municipal Complex. Additionally, the Facilities Department worked to upgrade the preventive maintenance. It also established a work order system and preventive maintenance for the School District to the buildings and equipment of the School and Town's facilities in order to ensure safety and economic improvements. This was accomplished by continuing in-place service contracts from outside vendors and improving the knowledge of the in-house staff, along with working with the Ipswich High School Life Skills Program (students). Also to this end, service contracts are in place for Emergency Generators, Fire Alarms, Fire Sprinkler Maintenance, HVAC, Plumbing, Elevator, Electrical Services, and a Maintenance Contract.

Major projects were completed with the additional funds allocated for this purpose. These projects were accomplished by outside vendors, in-house staff, and 969 hours of labor requested of and provided by the Essex County Correctional Department. The following are the major projects completed during this year:

- Installed a Security System for all Town Schools.
- Completed several ENERGY savings projects as follows: Removed and replaced high energy consuming lights in Town Hall Parking Lot, HS/MS Parking Lot, Police Department Parking Lot; replaced high energy consuming lights in the Central Street Fire Department, Linebrook Fire Department; and removed and replaced single pane windows with thermal pane windows in the Central Street Fire Station. Installed LEFD lighting system in the PAC at the Middle School/High School.
- Renovated the front deck on the Payne Building.
- Renovated the stage floor in the PA Center,
- Installed water softening system to kitchen and boilers at the HS/MS.
- Removed and replaced roof top ventilation system at Winthrop School.
- Continued the carpet replacement program at the Town Hall and Town Library.
- Removed and replaced the roof on the Cemetery Office Building
- Shored up the floor of the Building and Health Department Office to alleviate the problem of excessive weight due to the file cabinets.



Entrance Deck at Central Office



Carpet Replacement at
Winthrop School Library



Support installed in VA Office Ceiling
Below the Building/Health Dept. Office

In the coming year, the Facilities Department will continue with energy conservation throughout the Town and School District; install new Emergency Generators at Police Station and DPW Garage; and continue the carpet replacement program at the Town Hall and the Town Library and School District. This is the continuous mission of the Facilities Department to improve the infrastructure of the Town and School District's Physical Plant.

CEMETERY & PARKS DEPARTMENT

Jeffrey M. Putur, Superintendent

The Cemeteries & Parks department is responsible for the care and maintenance of nine cemeteries, five playgrounds, playing fields, parks, common areas, Pavilion Beach and the Ipswich resident side of the boardwalk at Crane Beach. In addition, we maintain all town-owned Open Space areas, such as Strawberry Hill, Dow Brook Conservation, Shady Creek, Nichols Field, Great Neck Conservation area and Turkey Hill.

Customer service is always a high priority in this department, whether it is town citizens, private contractors, funeral homes or other town departments, we always strive to be courteous and act within a timely manner to all situations that we encounter. We assist civic groups in the many activities that take place throughout the year; additionally we supply assistance to the Public Works in snow removal, sanding operations and any other emergency situations as needed. We also provide aid to the Town Clerk in setting up voting equipment, tables and chairs for all elections.

In 2014 the staff completed 105 funeral services, created a playground improvement plan and initiated phase one which was much needed improvements at Giles Firman, Howe park and Bialek park. We have created an athletic field schedule for Bialek park which updates usage on town owned fields and is viewed on the town's website. This past year we also started a multiyear process of updating cemetery maps through GIS software and have continued to update and input cemetery records into our computers.

In the upcoming year we plan to continue with our aggressive yearly property maintenance, update and digitize cemetery records, continue with updating cemetery maps in the GIS format and plan to complete phase two of our playground improvement plan which includes improvements at Father Ryc's playground and Bialek park. Our revenues for 2014 were as follows:

REVENUES

Grave Openings	\$57,650
Foundations	\$12,850
Tent	\$2,250
Bialek Field Fees	\$926
TOTAL	\$73,676

DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT
James A. Sperber, Director

DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT JANUARY 1, 2014 TO DECEMBER 31, 2014

Category / Construction	# of Permits	Total Fees	Value of Work
COMMERCIAL PERMIT	78	\$43,436.00	\$4,217,266.00
RESIDENTIAL PERMIT	607	\$316,218.00	\$30,693,306.00
DEMOLITION PERMIT	24	\$6,380.00	\$601,693.00
SHED PERMIT	28	\$2,205.00	\$79,301.00
WOODSTOVE PERMIT	25	\$2,025.00	\$72,521.00
SIGN PERMIT	20	\$1,150.00	\$51,549.00
TENT PERMIT	96	\$4,935.00	\$168,838.00
CERTIFICATE OF USE & OCCUPANCY	39	\$1,295.00	N/A
CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION - ANNUAL	100	\$7,125.00	N/A
CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION - PERIODIC	28	\$2,376.00	N/A
SHEET METAL PERMIT	31	\$6,430.00	\$619,320.00
TRENCH PERMIT	2	\$100.00	N/A
Totals	1078	\$393,675.00	\$36,503,794.00

PUMBING PERMITS	# of Permits	Total Fees
	291	\$28,350.00
Totals	291	\$28,350.00

GAS PERMITS	# of Permits	Total Fees
	269	\$16,960.00
Totals	269	\$16,960.00

ELECTRIC PERMITS	# of Permits	Total Fees
	468	\$76,193.63
Totals	468	\$76,193.63

The above is based on permit activity for the calendar year. The fiscal year commences July 1st and ends June 30th.

Building permits are required for not only new construction, but also for repairs and replacement of existing structures, decks, sheds, signs, wood and pellet stoves & fences over six feet high. If you have any question about whether your project may require a building permit, please call our office at 978-356-6605.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Colleen E. Fermon, Director of Public Health

The mission of the Public Health Department is to protect the public health and the environment, control disease and promote sanitary living conditions through the enforcement of State Sanitary Codes, State Environmental Codes and Board of Health Regulations. These state and local laws and regulations require Public Health Departments to perform many critical duties that include a wide range of public health control and prevention activities. We work in your community to protect the food supply, water supply, air and land. We promote sanitary living conditions in housing, enforce state lead poisoning and no smoking laws and control infectious disease. We inspect food establishments, pools, beaches, tanning facilities, recreational camps for children and septic system installations.

The Public Health Department also provides community health programs that keep people healthy and promote healthy behaviors. Our community health programs include:

Influenza Vaccination Clinics- This past season the clinic was open to individuals 19 years of age and older. A total of 111 people were vaccinated through our clinics in 2014.

Wellness Clinics- The Ipswich Public Health Nurse, Pamela Lara, runs monthly Wellness Clinics at 6 Caroline Avenue and Oak Hill Apartments, Ipswich. This program is offered free of

charge to residents of all ages. At the clinic you can request to have her check your blood pressure, heart rate and body weight and to answer any medication or other health related questions you may have. For wellness clinic dates contact Pamela Lara at 978-356-1654.

Dental Clinic- Our third dental clinic was run by Polished LLC this past June. Polish provided *free* dental screenings, cleanings, sealants and fluoride for children. Adults were able to receive screenings and cleanings for \$49.

Mosquito Control- The Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District (NEMMC) has thirty-two subscribing municipalities, including Ipswich. Their mosquito control and surveillance program runs from the middle of the spring until the beginning of the fall. NEMMC creates a Vector Management Plan (VMP) for the Mosquito Control District and a Best Management Practice Plan (BMP) for each of the municipalities within its District annually. District control efforts focus primarily on adult mosquito surveillance, virus testing and preemptive virus intervention strategies. The Mosquito Control Best Management Practice Plan for Ipswich is reviewed and approved by the Board of Health annually. Every year the main control measures in Ipswich's BMP include aerial salt marsh larviciding, catch basin treatments, inspections and adulticiding.

Sun Safety is a regional local public health project supported by a grant from the North Shore Community Health network. The North Shore Community Health network is an informal, volunteer network of health and social service providers from the following communities: Beverly, Danvers, Essex, Gloucester, Hamilton, Ipswich, Manchester, Lynn, Lynnfield, Marblehead, Nahant, Peabody, Rockport, Salem, Saugus, Swampscott, Topsfield, and Wenham. The goal of Sun Safety is reducing skin cancer rates in the region by educating people about the harmful effects of Ultraviolet radiation and offering ways for people to minimize their exposure to it. Starting with National UV Safety month (July) and continuing through the rest of the summer, we provided Sun Safety brochures and free samples of sunscreen to our residents.

Emergency Preparedness- Over the last decade, the role of Public Health has expanded into being a partner in emergency planning. The Public Health Department is responsible for developing emergency preparedness plans for emergency dispensing sites which will dispense vaccine or medication to the residents within its community in response to an infectious disease outbreak such as an influenza pandemic or a bioterrorism event.

Ipswich Board of Health and Public Health Department

The Board of Health sets the health policy for the Town which is carried out by the Public Health Department staff. The Ipswich Board of Health is comprised of three members appointed by the Town Manager for 3 year staggered terms. The Board of Health meets once a month, typically the first Monday of the month. For 2014, the Board members were Susan Hubbard, Chairperson, and members Dr. Spencer Amesbury and Charles Hill. Charles Hill resigned in November 2014. We appreciate Mr. Hill's more than 5 years of dedication and service to the board and Town. The Town Manager appoints the Director of Public Health. The Director of Public Health carries out the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Health. The Public Health Nurse responsibilities include infectious and communicable disease surveillance, investigation,

reporting and control, case management for tuberculosis patients and their contacts, organizing an annual immunization clinic for influenza and monthly wellness clinics, providing health education and promoting disease prevention programs.

Other Public Health Department Functions

Septic Betterment Program - The proceeds of a loan from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection are being utilized to help homeowners comply with Title 5, 310 CMR 15.000 of the State Environmental Code by providing financial assistance to homeowners to upgrade or repair their septic system. Ipswich homeowners with failed septic systems are able to apply for a Betterment Loan under the Town's Septic Management Betterment Program. By the end of 2014, more than \$379,000 had been approved in loans to homeowners. The Director of Public Health serves as the Septic Betterment Program Coordinator.

American with Disabilities Act (ADA) - The Director of Public Health also serves as the ADA Coordinator. The ADA Coordinator oversees the town's efforts to comply with the American with Disabilities Act and handle disability based discrimination complaints. Since January 26, 1992, municipal governments must provide equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in their programs, activities, and services.

Weights and Measures - The Sealer of Weights and Measures ensures the integrity of marketplace purchases of goods and commodities. All commercially used measuring and weighing devices, such as gasoline meters, scales, and scanners are annually tested and certified by the Sealer of Weights and Measures as mandated by state law. For Ipswich, this service is provided by the Massachusetts Division of Standards under a contract that is overseen by the Director of Public Health.

Health Inspections and Investigations

Bathing Beach Water Testing	85
Deep Hole Observations	109
Food Establishment Inspections	302
Housing Inspections	40
Lead Determinations	0
Motels	3
Nuisance, Health, and Environmental Complaints	39
Occupancy Inspections	29
Percolation Tests	54
Recreational Camps for Children	3
Septic System Inspections	126
Swimming Pool Inspections	10
Title 5 Inspection Reports	73
Total Health Inspections and Investigations	873

Licenses and Permit Issued

Food Service	74	Septic Installers	38
Retail Food	31	Septic Inspectors	18
Caterer	10	Swimming Pools	8
Temp. Food	55	Recreation Camps	2
Mobile Food	8	Motels	2
Frozen Deserts	3	Bottling	1
Bio Haulers	2	Tobacco	13
Septic Haulers	32	Funeral Directors	2
Beaches	6	Disposal System Construction	63
Beaver	1	Well Permits	4
Trench Permits	68	Recombinant DNA Registration	2
Outdoor Hydronic Heaters	0	Pasteurization of Milk	1
Licenses and Permits Issued 444			

Plan Review

Building Plan Review	349
Food Plan Review	38
HACCP Plan Review	0
Septic As Built Review	29
Septic Plan Review	113
Well Plan Review	8
Total Plan Review	537

Sealer of Weights and Measures

Scales	91
Meters	69
Scanners	12
Total	172



Disease Surveillance

Animal Bites	8
Babesiosis	5
Campylobacter	7
Cryptococcus Neoformans	1
Enterovirus 68	1
Haemophilus Influenzae	1
Hepatitis B	2
Hepatitis C	21
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	1
Influenza	19
Invasive Group B Streptococcus	2
Invasive Streptococcus Pneumonia	1
Latent TB Infection	2
Lyme	72
Varicella	3
Total Disease Surveillance	146

Loan Program

Betterment Loans	6
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Community Health Programs

Seasonal Influenza Immunizations	111
Wellness Clinics	24
Triad Meetings	12
Dental Screenings	25
Total Community Health Programs	172

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Robert Gambale, Chairman

Benjamin Fierro III, Vice-Chairman

The Zoning Board of Appeals (“ZBA”) is a five member adjudicatory board with two associates appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Full members serve for five years; associate members are appointed to one-year terms.

The ZBA acts on all matters within its jurisdiction, as provided under MGL Chapter 40A and the Ipswich Zoning Bylaw. This includes considering special permit petitions for dimensional relief and certain uses, deliberating on appeals of Building Inspector decisions, and acting on all requests for variances from the Zoning Bylaw. Additionally, the ZBA considers applications under the Comprehensive Permit Statute (MGL c.40B).

The ZBA considered 18 requests in 2014: 11 for special permits, five for variances, one appeal of the Building Inspector's decision, and a modification of an approved comprehensive permit. All but one of the special permit applications were approved; the other was withdrawn. Of the five variances requested, one was granted, one denied, and three were withdrawn. The ZBA overturned a decision of the Building Inspector, and agreed to modify a comprehensive permit to allow an additional residential unit.

Associate Member Keri MacRae, who served the ZBA well for several years, did not seek reappointment after her term expired. She was replaced by Robert Tragert, who returns after a five-year absence. Benjamin Fierro III was reappointed to serve a five year term. The ZBA was supported by Administrative Assistant to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Marie Rodgers.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Glenn C. Gibbs, Director

The Department of Planning & Development guides the development and conservation of land in Ipswich via the regulatory process, the preparation and implementation of long-range plans, and by providing support and guidance to the following boards and commissions: Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Affordable Housing Partnership, Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board, Open Space Committee, Design Review Board, Agricultural Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Selectmen, and various ad hoc committees (see their reports below). Some of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in 2014 include:

- Drafted five zoning articles for the two town meetings in 2014, which were all adopted
- Developed a public art policy for the Board of Selectmen, who adopted it in the summer of 2014, then facilitated the establishment of a Public Art Review Committee, pursuant to the referenced policy. Guided the Committee through its review of a proposal for a public sculpture on the lower easterly green on North Main Street.
- Working with a design consultant funded by a \$10,000 grant obtained from the Commonwealth, created a town logo, slogan, and hierarchy of way finding signs to direct visitors to places of interest in the town center. All of the developed elements were adopted by the Selectmen in the fall of 2014.

Under the direction of the Open Space Program Manager and the Stewardship Coordinator, undertook numerous open space initiatives, including: negotiated with landowners to further town goals to acquire land for athletic fields and other open space needs; monitored Commission-held conservation restrictions (CRs); completed summary report of public trails and signs at Turner Hill per condition of Planning Board Special Permit approval; hosted an Estuary Kayak and Open Space Walk as part of the Essex National Heritage Commission Annual Trails & Sails event and received a People's Choice Awards; held a dedication ceremony at Nichols Field for long-time land steward volunteer, Robert K. Weatherall, for his many years of service to the town, and collaborated with Cemetery & Parks, DPW, and Public Safety to find solutions to the ongoing issue of dog misuse on town land.

2014 was a year of transition for the staff of the Planning & Community Development Directorate. In addition to the hiring of Conservation Agent, Alicia Geilen in April, the Department bade farewell to two long-serving staff members, Open Space Program Manager Kristen Grubbs in July, and Associate Planner Kathy Connor in October. Both provided exemplary service to the town in their five-year plus tenures. We also said goodbye to our AmeriCorps staff member Dani Christopher after two years of service on land stewardship projects, and welcomed new AmeriCorp member, Maggie Brown, as her replacement.

PLANNING BOARD

Heidi Paek, Chair

The Planning Board (“Board”) leads many long-term planning efforts for the town, which include preparing plans for the use of land and the allocation of resources. The Board implements planning activities by preparing zoning regulations for consideration by town meeting and by suggesting policies to other boards and departments. The Board also regulates much of the town’s land development activity. For example, the Board reviews many commercial and industrial projects under site plan review; many uses, such as multi-family residential and large commercial developments under special permit review; scenic road alterations; and subdivisions.

The Board’s principal long-range planning activity in 2014 was the initiation and recommendation of zoning amendments for the annual and special town meetings. The Board proposed four articles to annual town meeting and one to special town meeting. Annual town meeting adopted Board-sponsored articles that amended the Table of Use Regulations, including allowing tasting associated with commercial breweries, wineries, distilleries, and other alcohol production facilities by-right in non-residential zoning districts subject to certain safeguards and limits. Special town meeting adopted a Board-sponsored article that updated flood insurance rate maps issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Board reviewed and approved with conditions a variety of new projects in 2014 and monitored previously approved projects for compliance with its decisions. Notable projects reviewed by the Board include industrial buildings and site work on Mitchell Road, Avery Street and Old Right Road, and commercial buildings and site work at 189 High Street and 95 Turnpike Road. The Board also approved several special permits allowing residential and mixed-use projects.

During 2014 Heidi Paek served as Chair, Jay Stanbury as Vice-Chair, and Kathleen Milano, Cathy Chadwick and Keith Anderson as regular members. Bill Bent served as an associate member for a part of the year. The Board thanks Mr. Bent for his service. The Board was supported by Planning and Conservation Assistant, Gail Surpitski, Associate Planner, Kathy Connor, and Department of Planning & Development Director, Glenn Gibbs. Jenn Dionne assisted the Board with taking minutes of meetings.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Jennifer Hughes, Chair

The Conservation Commission is comprised of seven members. From January through June of 2014, these Commissioners were: Jennifer Hughes (Chair), Sissy ffolliott (Vice-Chair), David Standley, Brian O'Neill, Karl Kastorf, William McDavitt, and Catherine Carney-Feldman, as well as one Associate Member, Michele Hunton. On June 30, Commissioner Karl Kastorf stepped down after six years on the Commission. His service was greatly appreciated by all. Karl was replaced by associate member Michele Hunton. In November, a new associate member, Raymond Putnam, was appointed.

The Commission members are engaged in a variety of activities on behalf of the town beyond its regulatory duties, including land conservation and preservation. Most of their time, however, is devoted to their formal role as the local environmental regulatory board tasked with implementation of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Ipswich Wetlands Protection Bylaw.

The Conservation Office supports the Commission's regulatory mandates, and for the past 11 years has been comprised of a full-time Conservation Agent and a part-time Conservation Assistant. From the fall of 2013 until the spring of 2014, Bill Decie served as the interim agent. In late April, Alicia Geilen began as the Conservation Agent, while Mr. Decie continued to assist the Commission as a part-time Conservation Field Inspector. In July, Conservation Assistant, Gail Surpitski, was promoted to Conservation and Planning Assistant, with expanded hours and duties. Cathy Miaskiewicz was hired to take minutes of the Commission's meetings.

Each year the Commission and their staff address a myriad of official filings and formal requests, respond to and research possible violations, and answer various citizen's queries. The table below compares 2014 activities with the previous five calendar years to indicate trends, and includes a rolling 6-year average for each category. Commencing in 2014, additional categories were tracked in order to provide additional detail on Commission activities, as well as to more fully illustrate the work load of the Conservation Office.

To accomplish the permitting process, Commission members attended 24 scheduled evening meetings, visited numerous projects and fielded many citizens' queries. Staff continues to respond to hundreds of routine queries and realtor requests, to inspect certain building permit project sites to ascertain need for jurisdictional filings, and to inspect all proposed project sites before hearings and during project activities.

Of particular note in 2014 were the following permitting and enforcement actions:

- Establishing an electronic database for all Orders of Conditions and Orders of Resource Area Delineation to facilitate close out with a Certificate of Compliance (COC). The Agent and Field Inspector reached out to dozens of applicants to encourage them to file for their COCs, resulting in a record number issued;
- MBTA/Keolis Enforcement Order for unauthorized replacement of a culvert and other work at Shady Creek Conservation Area for its impact on Town land;

- A single-family house project on Argilla Road (raze/rebuild house and boardwalk and invasive plant removal) for its extensive salt marsh impact/regulation; and
- Tractor Supply store on Turnpike Road for its economic development importance.

ConCom Activity	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Avg.
Citizen Queries (at ConCom hearing)						11	
Orders of Conditions	35	41	27	33	31	29	33
Formal Amendments						3	
Minor Modifications						12	
Certificates of Compliance	16	16	24	27	11	39	22
Extension Permits	9	3	4	6	0	2	4
Orders of Resource Area Delineation	1	1	5	1	0	2	2
Determinations of Applicability	29	23	35	33	27	32 (29 negative, 3 positive)	30
Emergency Certifications						1	
Enforcement Actions Initiated	8	6	9	16	7	17	11
Enforcement Orders Lifted						8	
Applications / Requests Withdrawn by Applicant						2	
Building Permit Applications Reviewed						180	
Chicken Coop Permit Applications Reviewed						13	
Totals	112	101	120	148	107	121 old list 361 new list	118 old list

In 2014 the Commission and their administrative staff continued to expand and clarify educational and related non-regulatory functions, including the creation of several new guidance documents for homeowners and contractors working in town; more closely coordinating permit approvals with other town departments, such as Code Enforcement, Board of Health, and Planning; and publishing a set of over 50 Frequently Asked Questions on the town's website.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

John Fiske, Chair

The Ipswich Historical Commission (IHC) undertook two main projects in 2014.

Architectural Preservation District

One project was to propose to the fall town meeting that the town should establish an Architectural Preservation District (APD) so that its unique architectural heritage shall be preserved in perpetuity.

In conjunction with Department staff, the IHC substantially modified a proposed general bylaw in the first half of the year, and held meetings in the summer for residents/ property owners in the proposed district. Feedback from these meetings was incorporated into the final proposal. The IHC presented the proposed bylaw to town meeting, which adopted the APD bylaw by a substantial majority.

The new bylaw establishes a Commission that will oversee the APD and will have binding powers over the demolition of, or major extensions to, any structure within the APD that was built before 1900, as well as new construction. The Commission will play an educational and advisory role in more minor remodeling and "cosmetic" projects within the APD.

Restoration of the Old Burying Ground

In early 2014 the Historical Commission initiated two studies that will culminate in a multi-year restoration of the Old Burying Ground on High Street. Grants were received from the Harold Bowen Fund, Essex National Heritage, and the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund. A pilot assessment was provided by Fannin-Lehner Associates, who will be working with Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC on a larger restoration plan to be presented in June of 2015.

Websites

The Historical Commission site (HistoricIpswich.org), and the Town Historian's site (Ipswich.wordpress.com) facilitate communication with the community and provide comprehensive documentation of historic buildings. In 2014, the Commission observed an increase in the purchase of historic house plaques through the new online form. The Historical Commission was supported by Assistant Planner, Kathy Connor, and Department of Planning & Development Director, Glenn Gibbs.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Charles Allen, Chair

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND BOARD

Jim Warner, Chair

The mission of the Housing Partnership is to promote, preserve, and create affordable housing in a manner consistent with the town's Community Development Plan. The Partnership meets monthly with the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board, which administers the monies paid into the Fund pursuant to the zoning bylaw. As prescribed by its articles of incorporation, two of the Trust Fund Board members are also be members of the Partnership. Activities undertaken by the Partnership and Trust Fund Board in 2014, with the able assistance of Affordable Housing Coordinator Terry Anderson, included:

Continuation of the Home Rehabilitation Loan Program. Established in 2012 to assist low and moderate-income homeowners with home repairs, the program has funded nine rehab projects, including the emergency replacement of a failed hot air furnace and a failed radiant heating system; electrical, insulation, painting, new windows and chimney repairs; and the installation of windows, a new heating system, new roof, and ceiling and carpentry repairs. The total committed to these projects is nearly \$240,000. Continued annual monitoring of affordable dwelling units by requesting and receiving certifications of income and continued occupancy.

Provided a forgivable loan of \$100,000 to Habitat for Humanity North Shore, which purchased from the Town a two-family house at 6-8 First Street, in exchange for agreeing to restrict the sale of the two rehabilitated dwelling units to households making less than the 60% of the regional median household income (RMHI).

Working with the Turner Hill ownership, restructured the long-term affordability requirement for the Turner Hill Great Estates development to create six multi-family apartments restricted to households with incomes at or below 60% of the RMHI, and one single-family house at 100% RMHI, all of which are located on-site.

Granted a \$35,000 subsidy to an income-qualified resident in exchange for a long-term Affordable Housing Restriction that will keep her condo affordable to other income eligible households upon the sale of the condo.

Initiated a public relations campaign that will highlight the achievements of the Partnership and Trust Fund.

The Trust Fund Board continues to exercise prudence in awarding loans and in carefully managing the Trust's funds. The year-end balance of the Trust Fund was \$183,536.

Two long-time members of the Trust Fund Board stepped down after several years of service: Selectman Pat McNally, and Susan Monahan. We thank them for their many hours of selfless work on behalf of the Board, and welcome their replacements, Nishan Mootafian and Jim Kroesser, who is also a member of the Partnership. The vacancy left by Moira Marsh's departure

has been filled by Merle (Skip) Pimental Marsh, who has long been involved in affordable housing provision in the town, especially for the elderly.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Carolyn Britt and Wayne Castonguay, Co-Chairs

The Open Space Committee (OSC) pressed ahead with its mission to both preserve undeveloped land and promote the idea that open space holds high value for the town. In 2014, committee members revisited the task of prioritizing key locations for land protection in the coming years, including coastal areas near Castle Hill, Labor in Vain Creek and Treadwell's Island, land on Great Neck, watershed lands inland, and agricultural and other scenic and wildlife uplands. Three of those locations were added to the Open Space Bond List at the fall 2014 special town meeting: the Miles River Sand & Gravel site, the Belosselsky property off Fox Creek Road, and Treadwell's island. Listing on the bond list means the town may attempt to acquire the property using monies from the \$15 million open space bond fund, subject to further approval at Town Meeting.

In September, the Open Space Program hosted the 2014 Trails & Sails event-a kayak and walking tour-within the Ipswich River and Eagle Hill River tidal estuaries to introduce participants to three of the town's premier conservation properties. Other OSC activities of note included establishing a presence at the Farmers' Market downtown and an information table at town elections to raise awareness on open space efforts. The campaign to secure additional athletic field land continued in 2014, with no tangible results, however. Locating enough flat, well-drained land to host additional sports fields has proven to be one of the town's most difficult open-space challenges to date.



Sadly, we bid farewell in June 2014 to Open Space Program Manager, Kristen Grubbs, who organized and led us capably for six years, seeking new parcels for acquisition and negotiating with land owners. The search for a new program manager continued at year's end. Beth O'Connor, Open Space Stewardship Coordinator, remains on board, leading kayak-walking tours and attending to the important duties of managing open space trails and facilities under town oversight. We welcomed Cathy Chadwick as the committee's new official liaison to the Planning Board. Cathy brings expertise on town planning matters and a helpful network connecting our committee's work with the agricultural community and other like-minded groups.

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Royce Knowlton and Kelly Jacklin, Co-Chairs

The mission of the Agricultural Commission ("Commission") is to support the town's significant agricultural community and resources by: encouraging and/or participating in the pursuit of sustainable agriculture and agriculturally-based economic development opportunities; representing the farming community in town government as well as the larger community; and acting as a facilitator, advocate, and educator on farming issues.

- To achieve these objectives, the Commission undertook the following initiatives in 2014:
- Collaborated with farmers, volunteers, and the Ipswich ReCreation and Culture Department to establish and maintain the new and improved Ipswich Farmers Market. The market opened in June and continued until October last year, and will open again in June of 2015.
- Supported the construction and planting of the Ipswich High School garden in its first year.
- Purchased four banners to hang along the circumference of the village green/farmers market to promote agriculture.
- Printed Farms in Ipswich bookmarks and Right to Farm by-law brochures for promotion and education of agriculture.
- Staffed a tent at Olde Ipswich Days, selling local produce and offering educational materials and information, to bring greater agricultural awareness to the larger community.
- Worked with ICAM to develop a video promoting awareness of the agricultural commission, its members, and the agricultural community.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Kerri Bates, Recreation Director

Ipswich Recreation & Culture seeks to celebrate all that is at the heart of our community. Traditions, both new and old, provide the rhythm for events that take place in landscapes that assure us we are “home.”

Independence leads the procession on the Fourth of July. We march along historic High Street, down Water Street, and gather on the steps of Town Hall to hear claim “Ipswich: The Birthplace of American Independence!” Together we stand, in red, white, and blue.

Take sight of the Choate Bridge from the Ipswich River Walk. Come summer, we dance in the glow of the Ipswich History Mural on Downtown Tuesdays.

Ipswich Farmers Market brings nourishment to the Common. We gather provisions in the company of neighbors and friends, in the cool green grass of the historic Hall Haskell House. We enjoy music, shade trees, the sounds of children at play, and locally sourced deliciousness.

Summer fleets; long lazy beach days, community concerts, cool starry nights...before we know it, even the Foam Frolic is a memory.

September brings return to routine from which Ipswich Arts & Illumination offers reprieve, inviting all to gather again by the communal fireside to bid “so long” to summer’s splendor.

Oh, Autumn! The colors, the smells! We remember the comforts of home and celebrate Thanksgiving, highlighting history with Ipswich is First...Period. An homage to harvest, hearth, and home.

Ipswich Evergreen rounds out the annum with wreath making, music and merriment on the Common.

We dance indoors come winter with monthly Community Contra Dances and Friday Noon Dance!

In partnership with our public schools Ipswich Recreation & Culture supports A.C.E., D.E.E.P. & Tiger Den. These programs provide after-school enrichment for students because learning is FUN-damental!

Ipswich Middle school students, a.k.a. Fit Crew, are provided transport to the Ipswich Family YMCA where they enjoy membership privileges, Monday - Thursday, free of charge. Check it out!

Life Long Learners offers education as entertainment. Join a conversation of intellectually curious adults; “discours” with us on a variety of compelling topics.

Community Recreation is fun, for sure, but it is so much more. It is the means by which we weave social safety nets, forge business partnerships, share ideas and inspire one another! Nothing short of all that! Connect with us by liking us on Facebook and

subscribe to the Ipswich Events Calendar and R&C “News Flashes” on the Town Hall web site.



COUNCIL ON AGING

Sheila Taylor, Executive Director

A wide variety of programs for senior citizens of Ipswich were provided under the umbrella of Council on Aging Services.

The Senior Center operated weekdays, 8:00-4:00 at the Town Hall. Three part-time receptionists welcomed guests, answered the phone, and assisted with the daily operation of the center. Regular programs included a book discussion group, bridge and card groups, knitting and quilting groups, art classes, inter-generational program, various dining programs, and a single friends group. Health-related programs included monthly health screenings, weekly blood pressure clinics, nutrition programs, polarity, reiki, hearing clinics, and podiatry clinics. Exercise and fitness programs included yoga, tai chi, exercise, line dancing, swimming, ping pong, walking, basketball, and pickle ball. The Travel Club embarked on international trips, overnight national trips, and day trips to various locations throughout the year.

Special offerings included presentations on elder care issues, Lifelong Learners Group, Virtual Dementia Tour, driver safety programs, a summer picnic, holiday parties, emergency preparation workshop, computer classes, painting and drawing classes, speakers on a variety of health, financial and legal issues, social gatherings for special observances and classes for a wide range of interests. A monthly newsletter written by the Director reached over 3600 elders through support of local advertisers and a grant for postage. Mr. & Mrs. Fix-it programs were introduced

to help seniors with minor repairs and light alterations. A Caregivers Support Group helped those dealing with frail elders. The Director continued to coordinate the Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Program. A seven-member TRIAD Council consisting of local police, fire, community service personnel and seniors offered safety awareness programs geared towards elders within our community. The bi-annual Health and Safety Fair was held.

A handicapped accessible, 14-passenger van provided local transportation to Ipswich seniors. Ipswich senior citizens were provided approximately 5,500 one-way rides on the COA van, logging over 18,000 miles of service. The Friends group continued to raise funds and support projects that fell outside of the COA budget. The Friends also contributed to a Christmas party for 190 seniors held in the gymnasium of the Town Hall. Grants from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Coburn Charitable Society provided funding toward a part-time Program Manager, newsletter postage, volunteer mileage reimbursement and a volunteer recognition luncheon. Project Warm Home, a COA fuel assistance program funded entirely by private donations, provided fuel assistance to 23 senior households at a cost of \$19,400.

The Outreach program enlisted a corps of 30 volunteers who provided 1,775 hours of volunteer service to local elders. This program also provided volunteers who drove senior citizens 18,260 miles to out-of-town medical appointments. Other services of the outreach program included social visits, friendly phone calls, help with chores, and guidance in making personal, medical, housing and financial decisions. Other assistance programs included Money Management and Bill Paying for elders, free income tax preparation provided by trained AARP volunteers and a SHINE counselor who provides information and guidance regarding health insurance information. A 7-member board council met monthly to review programs and operations and plan additional offerings.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES
EASTERN ESSEX DISTRICT

Ryan P. Lennon, District Director

This department is charged under Chapter 115 Massachusetts General Laws with providing services to veterans, their survivors and dependents. Principal workload under state law includes the administration of aid to veterans and dependents. Communities fund this program, which is subsequently 75% reimbursed the following fiscal year by the Commonwealth. This is a need based program and the department is required to conduct periodic comprehensive review of the cases to insure no substantive facts have changed, while working with the veteran to identify alternative or long-term solutions to individual circumstances. Under state law the department also assists qualified veterans to obtain bonuses, and qualified veterans, widows and parents to obtain state annuities, property tax abatements, and other benefits.

The Veterans' Services program also mandates extensive interaction within the federal community, principally with the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The Veterans' Service Officer (VSO) assists veterans and their dependents in filing for pensions, service connected injury/illness compensation, dependency indemnity compensation for survivors, VA healthcare enrollment, insurance claims, decedent claims, and many other issues. Federal benefits processed by this department are paid directly to those eligible to receive the assistance or entitlement. Additionally, the department interacts within the federal community to correct military records, obtain needed documentation and insure veterans/dependents receive awards and recognition to which entitled.

The Director and the Assistant to the Director advocate for veterans' on issues at the local, state and federal level, interact with elected and appointed officials on issues, and work with local organizations in serving the community. The department also provided information, assistance and guidance for citizens in determining their needs for Medical insurance.

On May 1, 2014, Terrance Hart, the Director of Veterans' Services for the last 15 years, passed away un-expectantly but peacefully. In October of 2014, Ryan Lennon, the former Director of Veterans' Services for Lexington-Bedford was hired.

The Eastern Essex District is composed of the Towns of Essex, Georgetown, Hamilton, Ipswich, Rowley, Wenham and West Newbury. A Board of Directors consisting of one selectman (or designee) from each town maintains oversight. Mr. Charles Surpitski represents the Town of Ipswich on the District Board of Directors.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

ELECTRIC DIVISION

Donald H. Newell, Electric Light Manager

The Power Plant continues in the ISO NE (Independent System Operator of New England) Forward Capacity Market providing 9.2 Megawatts of generation capacity in the NEMA zone. Under the current program, the department is compensated for being available for dispatch bidding in the day ahead market. The operation of the plant under this arrangement is overseen by Jeffrey Turner, Assistant Power Plant Superintendent.

Annual kWh sales

2008 sales 108,020,523
2009 sales 106,296,811
2010 sales 110,748,080
2011 sales 111,777,696
2012 sales 109,352,016
2013 sales 110,883,614
2014 sales 111,087,798

Metering Upgrades

The Ipswich Utilities Department continues with the implementation of the AMI system (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) for both water and electric revenue meters throughout the town. These meters establish true two-way advanced metering infrastructure. The Mueller **Mi.Net** System fully automates the meter-reading-to-billing process for water and energy utilities, linking meters, distribution sensors and control devices in a single, highly efficient wireless mesh communication network which can provide better service through instantaneous & automatic notification of service interruptions.

IMLD Green Power Initiatives

Wind Turbine I provides for approximately 3% of town's electricity needs.

Ipswich Municipal Light Department's GE 1.6 MW wind turbine located on Town Farm Road began commercial power production on May 18, 2011. It generated 3,559,477 kWh of energy during 2014.

Wind Turbine II provides approximately 4% of the town's electricity needs.

Wind II is a 2.0 MW unit manufactured by Hyundai. IMLD purchased 4,494,495 kWh during 2013.

Berkshire Wind provides approximately 3% of town's electricity needs.

This project began commercial operation on May 28, 2011, 10 days after Ipswich Wind I. Berkshire Wind is owned and operated by the Berkshire Wind Power Cooperative, a non-profit entity that consists of 14 Massachusetts municipal utilities (Ipswich being one of the 14) and a related joint action agency, the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company. IMLD received 3,285,466 kWh in 2014

Large Scale Solar Project Initiatives

The Ipswich Municipal Light Department has evaluated large scale solar project proposals to fit within the four corners of our green power portfolio. To date we have not received a project that has gone forward but will continue to be vigilant in this endeavor.

Residential Solar Program

There are currently 55 small-scale solar PV systems operating in Ipswich with a total annual production in excess of 700'000 kWh.

WATER & WASTEWATER DIVISIONS

Vicki Halmen, Manager

Total water pumping has remained stable at historic low levels due to responsible water use by our customers. The department actively promotes water conservation measures and continued the seasonal rate structure, which was started in 2003 to curb excessive summer water use.

Construction of the Jeffrey's Neck Road water main replacement project, approved at the 2011 Special Town Meeting, began in 2014. The water mains in this area are approximately 65 years old and have been prone to breaks and problems in recent years. This project was awarded a low interest loan through the Massachusetts DEP State Revolving Fund loan program. Construction is expected to be completed in the summer of 2015. The Department is committed to improving our aging infrastructure and will continue developing projects to improve the reliability of the water system. The next water main project to be undertaken will be on Linebrook Road between Washington Street and Pine Street. This will be done in conjunction with the road improvement project being planned by the Department of Public Works. The water main project was approved at the 2013 Special Town Meeting.

2014 Statistics

New Domestic Services	3
Hydrants Installed	2
Hydrants Repaired/Replaced	32
New Water Mains Installed (ft)	1,600
Total Length of Mains (ft)	498,005
Metered Water Services	4704
Unmetered Water Services (Fire Lines)	117
Residential Gallons per Capita per Day	50

2014 Water Usage by Source (Million Gallons)

Reservoirs (Dow and Bull Brook)	209
Browns Well	30
Essex Road Well	30
Fellows Road Well	32
Mile Lane Well	21
Winthrop Wells	25
Total Water Usage	347

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Joseph Ciccotelli, Superintendent

2014 continued to be a year of upgrades, changes and challenges for the Department. We continued to work closely with Mass DEP to plan and execute necessary modifications to the Water Treatment Plant's Chlorine Dioxide Generator pre-disinfection system.

The Water Department also continued to work closely with Mass DEP and our consulting engineer AECOM, in response to the newly enacted Manganese Health Advisory. While Manganese is an essential nutrient that is part of a healthy diet, it is also a contaminant at high levels. Two of Ipswich's six water sources have Manganese levels of concern, Browns and Fellows Road Wells. The WTP staff is able to monitor Manganese levels in the distribution system, and then operate a combination of the six sources in order to ensure that our drinking water continues to meet all State and Federal regulations.

The Water Treatment Plant granular activated carbon filter structures were rebuilt and the underdrains replaced, the first time since the WTP was commissioned in 1988. In addition, the media in one of the two GAC filters was replaced. These filters are the heart of the WTP – they are able to remove organic contaminants and provide a final polishing of the drinking water prior to its entrance into the distribution system. The carbon must be replaced on a regular basis for the filters to provide sufficient treatment.

Sedimentation basin residuals (a by-product of the water treatment process) are becoming more difficult for the WTP to dispose of. In 2014 (following a pilot study), we were able to remove excess water through a mechanical dewatering process provided by contractor P&H Senesac. We were then able to transport and dispose of the thickened residuals to the Town's composting facility at the end of Town Farm Road.





WASTEWATER DIVISION

John Parkhurst, Superintendent

The final phase of the 3-year Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project was completed in 2014. This phase of the project included construction of a new head works facility with screening and grit removal, refurbishment of two secondary clarifiers and refurbishment of two sludge holding tanks. The entire 3-year project was completed on schedule and within the \$6.4MM budget. \$4.2MM was borrowed by the Town through the Massachusetts State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program. The Town was awarded low interest SRF loans after a state-wide competitive application process.

The Wastewater Plant staff cleaned, drained, inspected and repaired equipment in one of two 750,000 gallon aeration tanks. One aeration tank is typically operating as part of the treatment process. Once repair activities were complete, that tank was put online and the second tank was taken off-line for service.

After the unexpected failure of a high flow pump at the Town Wharf Pump Station, the department expedited the procurement and installation of a new replacement pump. Without the services of this pump, there was a danger that the pump station would be unable to handle excessive wastewater flows. Staff increased monitoring of the station until the new pump could be installed. The replacement pump was successfully installed without incident. The new pump has improved the operation of the station, reduced clogging and energy consumption.

A new 1,600 foot sewer main extension along County Road was constructed to serve the new Residence at Riverbend Assisted living facility. This project was privately funded and includes

sewer service connection stubs to all abutting properties. Construction was completed in 2014 and Town acceptance of the gravity portion of the sewer main is expected in 2015.

Planning began for development of a SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system for the Wastewater Department. Implementation of a SCADA system will result in increased monitoring and control of all pumping systems and each component of the treatment process. This project is funded over a six year period. A consultant is expected to be selected in early 2015 and will begin with a complete system evaluation. Year 1 priorities and goals will be established and system design will begin.

FINANCE DIRECTORATE

Rita M. Negri, Finance Director

ACCOUNTING OFFICE

Rita M. Negri, Finance Director/Town Accountant

The Finance Director is the chief financial advisor to the Town Manager. She is directly responsible for the accounting, debt service, insurance, benefits, and other miscellaneous budgets. The Accounting, Assessor, IT, Town Clerk, and Treasurer/Collector departments are within the Finance Directorate. The department heads for each department report directly to the Finance Director. She submits revenue projections for budget purposes; meets with the Town Manager and department heads to review expenditure budgets; determines base budgets for the next budget cycle. She provides advice to the selectmen, finance committee, and school committee of any significant changes in the town's financial condition and changes in legislation affecting municipal finance.

The Town Accountant's Office consists of a full-time Town Accountant who also serves as Finance Director, an Assistant Town Accountant, and two full-time staff. The Accounting Department is responsible for processing the payroll for all employees, processing invoices for vendor payments, and preparing all W-2's and 1099's at year-end in accordance with IRS regulations.

The Town Accountant's Office maintains all of the accounting records for the Town's revenue and expenditures; ensures that reconciliations are performed between applicable Town departments; assists in providing information on benefits available to employees; and oversees the operation of the Town's financial computer system.

The Finance Director/Town Accountant also coordinates the annual independent audit of the Town's financial statements that was last completed by December 15, 2014, for the year ended June 30, 2014. The financial results for fiscal year 2014 were very good. This was due to good collections on receivables, and responsible spending of appropriations.

Free Cash for fiscal year 2014 was certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, Division of Local Services on October 14, 2014 in the amount of \$1,555,948

TREASURER DEPARTMENT

Kevin A. Merz, Treasurer/Collector

The Treasurer/Collector is responsible for the investment of all Town funds and the collection of Real Estate taxes, Personal Property taxes, Motor Vehicle and Boat excise taxes. The Treasurer/Collector's office is also responsible for all municipal borrowings, balancing cash and accounts receivable with the Town Accountant, selling beach stickers, accepting Passport applications, processing Municipal Lien Certificates and continuing collection efforts of properties in Tax Title. In 2014, the Treasurer/Collector's office sold 5,801 beach stickers, 342 fishing stickers and 20 horse stickers.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Robin Nolan, Chairman

The Assessor's Office is responsible for valuing all real and personal property within the Town of Ipswich for tax purposes. We are also responsible for administering motor vehicle and boat excise tax, however, the Assessors do not determine value for these excise tax bills. Abatements for real estate, personal property, motor vehicle excise, and boat excise are the responsibility of the Assessors. Another function of the Assessor's Office is to send Statutory Exemption and Tax Deferral forms to property owners who have received an exemption/deferral during the previous year. The most common exemptions are qualifying veterans, seniors and blind persons.

The Chief Assessor and staff are available to answer your questions during regular office hours, and will be happy to provide assistance in completing forms.

TOWN CLERK AND CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

Pamela Z. Carakatsane, CMMC/CMC

POPULATION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2013– 12,983

	VITAL RECORDS		
	2012	2013	2014
Births	94	82	86
Deaths	93	101	109
Marriages	61	59	54

SHELLFISH LICENSES AND PERMITS

	2012	2013	2014
Resident Yearly	142	144	160
Resident Family	98	98	85
Resident Commercial	124	123	102
Student Commercial	8	0	4
Over 70 Commercial	11	9	9
Over 60 Recreational	55	51	43
Non-Resident Yearly	131	127	115
Non-Resident Daily	54	31	33
Eagle Hill Stickers	8	13	10
Total	631	596	561

DOG LICENSES

Registered Dogs	1,884
Registered Kennels	11

TOWN MEETINGS ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATIONS

I. The Board of Registrars

Peter Ross
Robert M. Stone
Katherine Eliopoulos, Chairwoman
Pamela Z. Carakatsane, CMMC/CMC

II. Town Meetings:

May 13, 2014

Annual Town Meeting

First Session – Three hundred sixty five voters attended
Second Session - Two hundred two registered voters attended
The Warrant consisted of thirty three articles

October 21, 2013

Special Town Meeting

Four hundred twenty two registered voters attended.
The Warrant consisted of fifteen articles.

III. Elections:

May 20, 2014

Annual Town Election

Votes Cast:	4,227
Number of Registered Voters:	10,509
Turnout:	40.22%

September 9, 2014

State Primary Election

Votes Cast:	1,910
Number of Registered Voters:	10,536
Turnout:	18.12%

November 4, 2014 State Election

Votes Cast:	1,467
Number of Registered Voters:	10,536
Turnout:	58.14%

REGISTERED VOTER STATISTICS

Number of Registered Voters as of December 31, 2013 – 9,996

Number of Residents Enrolled in a Party or as Unenrolled

Party	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4	Total
Democrat	657	625	451	522	2,255
Republican	336	347	443	341	1,467
Unenrolled	1,443	1,689	1,526	1,590	6,248
Total	2,436	2,661	2,420	2,453	9,970

Number of Residents Enrolled in a Political Designations

Party	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4	Total
Green Party	0	0	1	0	1
Libertarian	4	0	3	0	7
We the People	0	0	1	0	1
Green Rainbow	0	3	2	0	5
MA Independent Party	1	1	0	1	3
American Independent	1	2	3	0	6
Inter 3 rd Party	0	0	1	2	3
Total	6	6	11	3	26

Thank you to my Assistant, Kathy Marini; Office Volunteer, Janet Trask; the Board of Registrars; Ginny Player, Donna Gordon; Marlene Shannon and Pat Morley who assisted this office through the Senior Work Program; the Constables, Wardens, Clerks, Checkers, Provisional Ballot and Tally persons; the Ipswich Police Department; the staff of the Cemetery Department; the Facilities Department; the YMCA staff; and to the staff at the High School/Middle School who help set up for Town Meeting. Also, Andrew Agapow, Ronald Graves, Robert Stone, Phil Grenier, and Nick Vontzalides who spend many hours setting up the night before each election and dismantling the day of the election. They all have helped to make each Election and Town Meeting a success.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (MIS)

Greg Parachojuk, MIS Director

The IT department is charged with the ongoing mission to develop, enhance and support the Town's computing and telecommunications infrastructure and, to provide the system and services necessary for the Town's departments and users to fulfill their stated goals and objectives. IT has been specifically focused with the task to reduce footprint, power, and maintenance costs.

- Ongoing work is being done with GIS so departments have the most up to date information for their project and planning purposes.
- The website is constantly being updated and a new website will be introduced next year with a new format and improved features.
- Please visit our website at <http://www.ipswichma.gov> to access online permits, assessment data, tax maps, minutes, online payments, forms and other useful information.

IPSWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Victor Dyer, Director

Collections: New books added: 3,536 (Adult & Young Adult) and 2,126 (Children). New media added: 664 (Adult & Young Adult) and 544 (Children).

Technology: 4,680 patrons signed up to use the Internet PCs, while 57,197 hits were recorded on the library's web site. Over 10,427 sessions were recorded on library databases. The library began offering access to magazines in electronic format through Flipster. Access to this service was a gift from EBSCO Publishing.

Staff: Patrick Mattin left as Children's Room Page. His hours were given to Michelle Guvendiren. Michelle Guvendiren was once again hired to work with children in the summer. Library Director Victor Dyer announced his intention to retire in 2015. Reference/Adult & Young Adult Services Librarian Paula Grillo also announced her intention to retire in 2015.

Volunteers: This year volunteers donated over 1200 hours of service. Three community service high school students volunteered hours as well as two senior citizens who participated in the Property Tax Work Program. Members of the Town & Country Garden Club helped with yard maintenance while the Ipswich Garden Club decorated the library for the holidays. The annual Appreciation Breakfast for volunteers was sponsored by the Friends at the Ipswich Inn in April. Mr. Bobby Parr restored three library benches.

Board of Trustees: During the Children's Department Vehicle Day in July the Trustees served free hotdogs to all comers. The Board accepted a gift from Library Director Victor Dyer of a framed engraving of President Ulysses Grant. The Trustees voted to have the library's Federal era mahogany card table restored by Jon Ording. The Trustees accepted the gift of Viviane Ockenga of an oil painting by Francis Henry Richardson. The Trustees appointed two new members to the Art Committee: Suzie Greene and Mary Ann Parker.

Plan of Service: Activities accomplished on the *Plan of Service 2014-2018* included the first Massachusetts Author talk which featured Roland Merullo; an evening talk by local artists Dorothy Monnelly and Ellie Norris sponsored by the Art Committee; a celebration of the work of children's book illustrator (and Ipswich resident) Ed Emberley; a new program for children on classic fables and a 'Story Explorers' program (both programs run by Betsy Johnson).

Public Relations: The library produced two issues of *The Newsletter* in 2014. The fall newsletter was, for the first time, printed professionally by Minuteman Printing. The Ipswich Reads...One Book! Program continued into its tenth year with Alfred Lansing's *Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage*. The library's Facebook 'likes' grew to 386.

Building: The deteriorated outside walkway on the North side of the building was demolished by a crew from a local correctional facility under the direction of the Facilities Department. New, energy-efficient lighting was installed in the pendant light fixtures in the Gaunt Reference Room (Facilities Dept.) The Collins Room and other areas were painted and new carpeting was installed on main stairway and adult non-fiction stacks (Facilities Dept.). Electronic people counters were installed at the two entrances to the building.

Friends: The Friends continued their funding for museum passes, CDs, DVDs, refreshments, aquarium maintenance, museum pass booking software & library calendar software, supplies & children's programs. They also provided funds to enhance the e-book collection available to Ipswich residents through Overdrive Advantage

Bequests & Gifts: Donations were received in memory of Charlotte Seinfeld, Myron Taylor, Evon Yameen, Peg Broekel, Eleanor Sheppard & Isabel Walker. A donation was also received from Adeline E. Diehl.

Seismology Program: Funding for the Boston College Educational Seismology Project (BC-ESP) was provided by the Trustees. In January Liz MacDavitt's sixth grade class (North Shore Christian School) visited the library to learn about the seismograph. In February Dr. Alan Kafka, Director of the Weston Observatory, delivered a lecture at the library on the topic: *Can Earthquakes Be Predicted?* Stacy Moulis, Seismologist from the Weston Observatory, attended the Library's

Science Fair in August to answer questions about the seismograph.

Programs: The Children's Room offered 314 programs with 7,449 children & caregivers participating. There were 21 Adult/YA programs with 425 participants. These figures now include the Friends monthly programs.

Circulation: Total circulation in 2014 was 161,551 items. This represents a decrease of 3.2% from the 2013 circulation of 166,969. The library borrowed monthly, on average, 1859 items through interlibrary loan. This is a 10.11% decrease from 2013. The library loaned monthly, on average, 1938 items to other libraries' patrons through interlibrary loan, a 4.2% increase over 2013.

Grants: The library received a \$1000 grant from the Coburn Charitable Society for the purchase of large print and audiovisual materials. The Children's Room was awarded a \$500 grant from New England Biolabs for the purchase of children's science DVDs. Umesh Bhujar from Zumi's also donated \$500 for this purpose. The Ipswich Lion's Club donated \$500 for the purchase of an area rug to be used for children's programming. The bulk of the Mother Goose on the Loose grant of \$7500 was spent during 2014. This grant was funded through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners with funds from the Library Services and Technology Act, a Federal source of library funding provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The library received a \$500 Exxon-Mobil grant through volunteer Phillip Goss which was used for a new display truck for the Children's Room. The Ipswich Cultural Council granted the library \$400 to underwrite the Ed Emberley program.

Archives: We logged in 137 visits to the Archives by researchers in 2014. Volunteer Donna Albino continued her work organizing the papers of the Friends of the Ipswich Public Library. Volunteer Howard Fosdick continued to update the obituary files.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. William I. Hart, Superintendent

In the 2014 school year the Ipswich Public School Department embraced the many challenges and successes associated with building a model school system. There are several leverage points the school department has identified to move the district forward this year: Funding, curriculum, technology and operations. Improvements and changes in these four areas have helped launch a new era for the Ipswich Public Schools. There is a great deal of work ahead but, positive momentum is building and enthusiasm for the work is growing.

The Ipswich Public School Department is committed to long-term financial planning designed to use available resources to bring an ambitious school improvement agenda to fruition. Financial decisions were informed by audits/studies in operations, maintenance, School Choice and technology. School Committee members and district administrators have worked together for months to outline two clear financial and programmatic options for Ipswich voters to consider. A Proposition 2 ½ override request outlines a five year budget that maintains strong Ipswich educational programming and expands innovative Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math options intended to prepare students to be globally competitive.

Strong curriculum is the lifeblood of a school department when it clearly identifies what schools want students to know and be able to do. Ipswich Public School Department is in the second year of a multi-year 21st Century curriculum development process. Newly established curriculum teacher leader specialists are helping facilitate the curriculum development process at the building level. This year each district teacher is tasked with creating a curriculum unit that blends the Massachusetts Common Core with the district Successful Habits of Mind. At year's end, over one hundred and sixty teachers will each have created a curriculum unit aligned with the knowledge and skills essential for success in this century.

A significant investment in technology this year has resulted in a quantum leap in creating a rich learning environment for students across the district. Over the summer and into the fall, the district technology team virtually rebuilt the entire district technology infrastructure. This work has greatly improved connectivity and technology reliability in every district classroom. In tandem with the infrastructure re-build, the district has sponsored extensive professional development for teachers. The professional development is designed to support teachers as they embed technology into the teaching process. The result is that students are regularly using technology to support their learning.

Another significant venture underway in the district is the Winthrop School Building Project. Two years ago the district submitted an application to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to support a renovation/building project for the Winthrop School. Last year the MSBA selected the Winthrop building to move forward in the selection process. Over the past eighteen months the Town School Building Committee has met every MSBA selection benchmark on or before schedule. Most recently, the MSBA selected the Winthrop School building project to move into the Feasibility Phase of the building project. The Feasibility Process is designed to identify the school's educational goals and fully analyze all construction options to maximize efficiency and educational goal effectiveness.

In summary, Ipswich Public School Department is on the move: developing state-of-the-art curriculum for this century, introducing technology that supports innovative programming, maintaining and updating our buildings and executing long-term financial planning. These endeavors are a winning combination for the Ipswich Public Schools.

IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL

David Dalton, Principal

Ipswich High School continues to offer Ipswich students an excellent public education as evidenced by recognitions in a number of areas.

The National Merit Program recognizes seniors each year based on PSAT testing. This year we had 4 students receiving Commendation recognition. This is a large number for any public school. Colleges continue to accept Ipswich High School graduates at a high rate. The Class of 2014 ended with 92% accepted to colleges, 76% of those to 4 year colleges, and 16% to two year schools. Acceptances included Boston University, University of Connecticut, Fordham University, Colgate University, Gordon College, James Madison University, Pennsylvania State

University, Providence College, Princeton University and many others. Over 175 different colleges accepted Ipswich High School graduates.



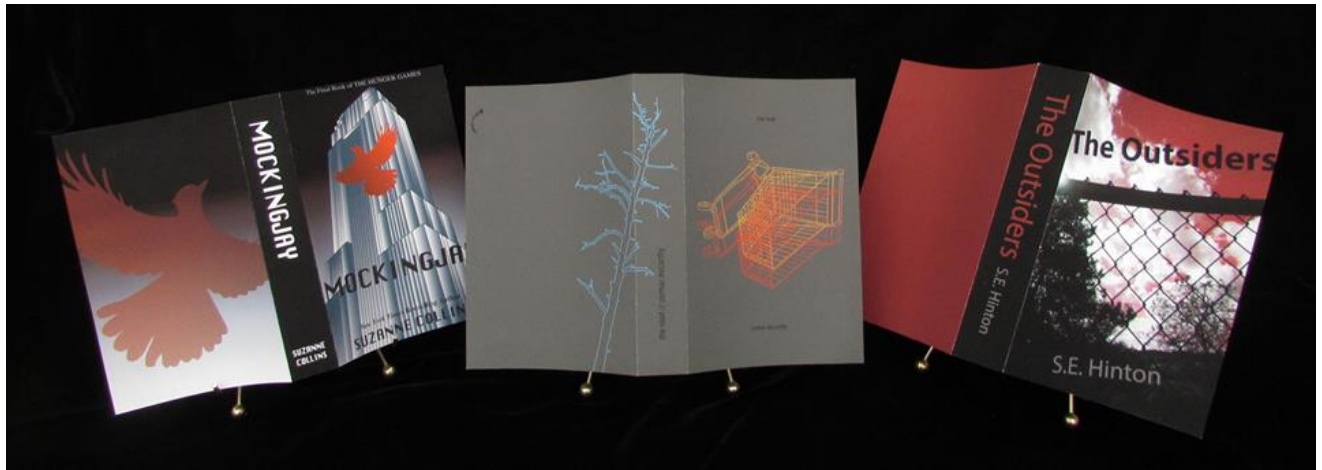
MCAS scores continue to be outstanding with 99% of the current juniors scoring Advanced or Proficient in English Language Arts. In Mathematics, 86% attained that level as did 77% in Biology. Students continue to have scores that rank Ipswich High School in the top tier of Level I Massachusetts Public Schools.

2014 Accountability Data - Ipswich High

Organization Information			
District:	Ipswich (01440000)	School type:	High School
School:	Ipswich High (01440505)	Grades served:	09,10,11,12
Region:	Northeast	Title I status:	Non-Title I School (NT)

Accountability Information		About the Data
Accountability and Assistance Level		
Level 1	Meeting gap narrowing goals	
This school's overall performance relative to other schools in same school type (School percentiles: 1-99)		
All students:	<div><div></div><div>68</div></div> <div>Lowest performingHighest performing</div>	

Several of our athletic teams advanced into the MIAA State Tourney and many athletes earned individual All-Star and All League Honors. IHS art students again received Gold, Silver and Honorable Mention Awards from the *Boston Globe*.



As has been our custom, the Gold medal Jazz Band, Concert Band, Orchestra and Concert Choir all performed multiple times at a level rarely seen in high school. Their concerts are a superb chance for members of the community to see tremendous talent and performances in our own Performing Arts Center. We are fortunate to have such exceptional students and a staff led by Gerry Dolan who notably will be retiring at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

One of the most important areas for students continues to be in the co-curricular clubs and activities. Students have found faculty to sponsor numerous clubs and activities. Our academic clubs including Math, Environmental, model United Nations, and People to People have provided our students with numerous opportunities to compete or to simply expand our thinking related to global topics. Students have had several opportunities to travel within the United States and around the world through their participation in Project Close-up and as part of a Global Student Leaders conference in Costa Rica.

The Ipswich faculty and student body are proud of the work that we accomplished in 2014 and are looking forward to raising the bar even higher in 2015.

IPSWICH MIDDLE SCHOOL

David P. Fabrizio, Principal

The 2014-2015 school year has been a continuation of the solid educational foundation that we have been building at Ipswich Middle School for the past three years. Our professional staff continues to collaborate and grow. Our comprehensive professional development program, data-driven student remediation and improved instructional techniques all contributed to increased student learning. Once again Ipswich Middle School performed at the highest levels in state and national standardized tests.

Our professional focus this year centered on developing curricular units on communication and communication skills. This exercise is part of a big picture shift in our curriculum. Moving forward as a district we will be blending the content and frameworks outlined in the Massachusetts Common Core with the Ipswich Successful Habits of Mind. The Successful Habits of Mind are skills that all successful persons will need to thrive in a constantly changing world.

We were excited this year to begin a few new initiatives. Our Tiger of the Month program was developed to recognize students who exemplify what it means to be a Tiger—Truthful, Inclusive, Gracious, Enthusiastic, Respectful. Students who had this honor bestowed upon them have their picture displayed in the Main Office and published in the Ipswich Chronicle. We are extremely proud of our on-line language learning program. Using a Feoffee’s mini-grant we were able to allow sixty 7th grade students the opportunity to explore beginner Spanish, French, Latin and German.

Our middle schoolers continue to enjoy a variety of after-school activities, including Art Club, Math League, Recycling Club, Homework Club and Tiger Den. Our Student Leadership Senate (SLS) has led the way in community service with our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive, Penny Wars and the Walk for Hunger. The Walk and the Food Drive benefit the Ipswich Food Pantry. Eighth grade student Mackenzie Greenleaf, our Project 351 Ambassador, organized the highly successful “Repurpose for a Purpose” clothing drive that benefits needy families. Our Drama Club once again brought down the house with two productions this year-- “CSI: Fairy Tale Unit” in the fall and “Guys and Dolls” for the winter musical.

Our athletic programs continued to thrive. Once again a record number of students participated in our intramural offerings of basketball, volleyball, tennis, badminton, dodge ball, golf and ultimate Frisbee. On the interscholastic side our student athletes competed with neighboring schools in cross country, field hockey, soccer, basketball, ice hockey and track.

In keeping with tradition, each grade attends an academically based trip during the school year. The sixth grade kicks it off for us with a week in April at The Ecology School at Ferry Beach in Saco, Maine. Students spend their time exploring and learning on a beautiful coastal campus. Seventh grade students learn first-hand about the local ecosystems and history with a series of separate day trips at locations along the Ipswich River and the town of Ipswich. The eighth grade is breaking from tradition this year. Our geological-based trip will take place in New Hampshire this year instead of upstate New York.

Clearly, the Ipswich Middle School is a dynamic, thriving institution. Our vibrant faculty and outstanding students have created an all-inclusive culture that affords everyone the chance to get involved. We are dedicated to the belief that an active and engaged student is a successful student.

DOYON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Sheila Conley, Principal

As always, the faculty and staff continue to provide a solid educational experience to the over 440 students of the Paul F. Doyon Memorial School. Even during these continued fiscally challenging times, the excitement and enthusiasm for learning is the top priority for our students. We are able to maintain this positive and rigorous learning environment because of the commitment of the entire Doyon community.

Once again, this year our Ipswich Kindergarten program has achieved accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). This national recognition is a mark of the commitment and quality of early childhood education our dedicated staff provides on a daily basis.

We continue to implement best practices of the Reading and Writing Workshop models. Doyon and Winthrop teachers continue to work collaboratively to ensure our curriculum and assessments align with the Common Core. This year, faculty has incorporated the Successful Habits of Mind initiative into some of their units.

Currently, preschool through grade five students are able to experience rich and comprehensive music and art classes. All fourth and fifth graders have the opportunity to participate in the band and chorus, while only fifth graders experienced orchestra this year. Musical performances in front of their peers and parents, illustrate their enthusiasm and dedication as young musicians. The Spring Art Show showcases the talent of each and every student in the building and their love of the Arts.

We have had to be creative in order to continue to enhance our programing during these financially difficult times. Thanks to the Feoffees Payne Grant and Mini Grant funding, Doyon has been able to have consultants work with both our students and staff in the areas of mathematics and visual literacy. The Doyon teachers have received grants that included Chrome books, IPADS, and even a mini grant entitled “Building for Next Generation of Engineers” written by a Doyon and Winthrop teacher together. This grant has allowed second graders to engage in Lego Robotics.

The DEEP (Doyon Extraordinary Enrichment Program) is a highlight of Doyon’s extra-curricular opportunities offered after school to all students free of charge thanks to a grant from the Recreation Department. Over 250 students participated in the various classes during our fall and spring five week sessions. Classes are taught by staff, parents, and community members sharing their talents with our students. Some of the classes include Lego building, gardening, basketball, Fit Girls, cooking, jewelry making, crafts, drawing, sculpture, sewing and scrapbooking. We would love to have more community involvement, so if you are interested, please give Doyon a call.

Our fourth and fifth graders continue to learn and share their leadership qualities with their younger classmates and community members through their involvement in Student Leader Team (SLT) and Early Act. In collaboration with the Ipswich Rotary, the Early Act students meet monthly and coordinate events to raise funds and awareness of the importance of helping others both locally and throughout the world. On April 10th, Early Act held their Annual Movie Night at Doyon with over 200 families enjoying the evening. It is so nice to see our Early Act students standing side by side with the Rotary members who volunteered their time for this wonderful event. All donations are given to a chosen charity which is decided by the group.

As always, many thanks to our FRIES (Friends of Ipswich Elementary Schools) for all they do for the children and staff. In these difficult economic times, their financial support for enrichment programs, technology, and many after school and evening events is appreciated more

than words can express. A special thanks to those families who supported the Doyon Appeal. These donations have contributed to curriculum resources in the areas of Language Art and Next Generation Science Standards/ STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics).

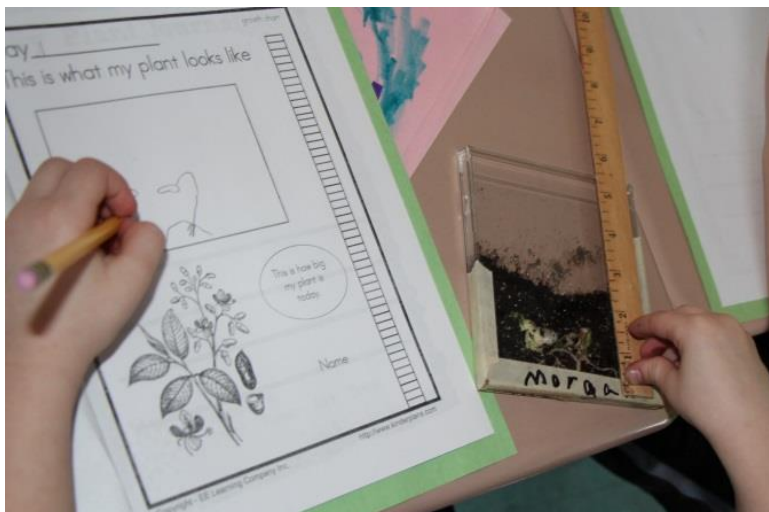
In closing, I would like to extend a special thanks to the dedicated and talented faculty and staff with whom it is a pleasure to work, and to the community of Ipswich for your support for our children's education. This upcoming 2015-16 school year, the Paul F. Doyon Memorial School will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. There will be a celebration on September 26th on the front lawn of Doyon. More information will be available on the Doyon website in June.

WINTROP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Sheila McAdams, Principal

Optimism, our school-wide theme, reigns supreme at the Winthrop School! The calendar year has yielded uplifting opportunities for our students, staff and parents that continue to develop, refresh, and strengthen our bonds as contributing members of a larger community. The influx of Feofee grant funds, both for large and small projects, has led to new student programming, such as Lego Robotics in second grade; enhancement of learning tools, such as reading materials and integrated technology applications; and professional development resulting in changing mindsets, eager to alter instruction, to best meet the every-changing needs of our students in this economic time.

Collaborative efforts are the name of the game when it comes to successful student outcomes. Teacher teams in both elementary schools have reviewed student writing samples, ensuring high standards and common expectations are in place as our children strengthen their written communication skills. The kindergarten teachers at both Winthrop and Doyon, through considerable effort and keen focus, led the way to national accreditation for our kindergarten programs for the second time in ten years. This commendable accomplishment comes after intense national review and site visits. What is the end result? A visible and notable stamp of excellence on our high quality programming, a commitment to our continual collaboration and renewed determination to remain focused on our students' growth.



Several impactful projects whose genesis was the extremely successful playground rebuild were the learning community's mural painting and the garden development. David Fichter, a



renowned international muralist, guided our learning community through the process of mural development focused on the habitats of Ipswich. As an Artist in Residence, Mr. Fichter worked collaboratively with our Visual Arts teacher to instruct, encourage and coach students as they drafted, refined and painted elements later used in the finalized mural. The mural oversees the community-built playground in a prime place of honor.

The gardens, also part of last year's renovations, proved fruitful for both learning and community health. Planted seedlings and bulbs benefited instruction as students actively nurtured their curiosity and made connections to classroom learning. Produce, ripened over the summer, was used in the summer student food program, a collaborative effort between the Winthrop staff, Ipswich Caring, Ipswich Housing Authority, Ipswich Library and the Gloucester's Open Door organization.

In late spring, we received exciting news from the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Our two-year effort to gain acceptance in the Massachusetts' school renovation/rebuild program was achieved. Our acceptance offered Ipswich the opportunity to consider upgrading and/or replacing the Winthrop School with some level of guaranteed cost reimbursements. Often taking up to five years, acceptance into the program is evidence of the considerable challenge our obsolete building creates with regard to state-of-the-art educational programming.

Infrastructure isn't showy. Discussions of infrastructural upgrades rarely initiate passionate opinions or strong advocacy. Without due attention to the foundational nature of its importance, however, services that we expect without fanfare and plans for future improvements may be unrealized. The townspeople's vote at Fall Town Meeting indicates an understanding of and support for continual upkeep and upgrade of our schools as important community capital assets. While the process has just begun, we are indeed **optimistic** about the future.

SHADE TREE AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Janet Taisey Craft, Chair

The Shade Tree and Beautification Committee is made up of concerned Ipswich residents, landscape professionals, Garden Club members and two selectmen who recommend, recognize, and implement actions that beautify and enhance the town of Ipswich and its quality of life. The Committee seeks and monitors local business support for the planting and maintaining of roadway islands, promotes appropriate planting areas and tree planting throughout the town as well as organizes town-wide cleanups. The Committee works closely with the Town Manager, Department of Public Works, Planning Department, Forestry Department, Board of Selectmen, and Garden Clubs to achieve special initiatives. 2014 was a busy year for the Committee.

Highlights include:

The Adapt An Island Program enters its eighth year. This program has greatly enhanced the beauty of the town and has become a model for other nearby communities. Through an application process, coordinated through the town's DPW department, local businesses and community organizations sponsor and maintain a traffic island three seasons of the year. The Committee also sponsors hanging flower baskets in the downtown business area and maintains 24 large planters along the Riverwalk.

The Old Elm Tree Wood Project was initiated when the town's beloved 250-year-old elm tree on the corner of East Street and County Street died and had to be cut down in July 2012. The Old Elm Tree Wood Project was created to use the wood from the tree to create useful objects and works of art that will memorialize the tree and benefit the town. Large cross sections of the tree trunk have been cut and preserved for a Elm Tree Display project. After nearly three years for drying, the ring has been sanded and finished. The Elm Ring was dated by Dr. David Orwig, a research forest ecologist. He determined the tree was 171 years old when it died. The Elm Ring Project will be completed in the late spring 2015 and will be on public display in one of the glass cases on the first floor of the Town Hall. The Committee initiated a fundraising effort to raise money for future trees and tree maintenance in Ipswich.

The Committee organized a fall and spring Town Wide Cleanup. Volunteers cleared trash in the major entrance roadways into town, the downtown business area, the Hammett Street parking lot, the railroad station, Bialek Park, and the Town Wharf.

The Committee reviews the town's Streetscape projects and their impact on trees. Working closely with the town arborist and other town committees, the Committee is a strong advocate for the preservation and protection of the town's shade trees.

TRUST FUND COMMISSION

Alexander M. Colby, Chairman

Despite continued low interest rates, negative returns in most non-U.S. equity markets and a sub-par U.S. economic recovery, the Town's trust funds returned 4.5% in 2014 after custodial fees but before distributions. In dollar terms, the funds performed as follows:

Market Value 12/31/2013	\$459,573.47
Contributions	358.92
Interest	5,408.11
Dividends	4,619.56
Capital Appreciation	12,914.18
Less:	
Custodial and Accounting Fees	-2,311.90
Distributions	<u>-12,000.00</u>
Market Value 12/31/2014	\$468,562.34

All of the year's distributions represented scholarships from various Funds for graduating seniors from Ipswich High School. The trust funds are currently allocated 50% in fixed income and cash equivalents and 50% in equities. This allocation supports the production of current income, reduced price volatility and longer-term growth of capital. Equity exposure is diversified with 81% in the broad U.S. equity market, 16% in Europe, Australasia and the Far East and 3% in Emerging Markets. The fixed income portion of the portfolio is concentrated in short-term, high quality corporate bonds. As these bonds mature over the next few years we expect to reinvest their proceeds at higher rates than are currently available as the Federal Reserve reverses its current policy of essentially "zero" interest rates. The portfolio also has a significant investment in a Treasury Inflation Protection Security (TIPS) that produces both current income and also provides protection against inflation which will inevitably return.

Although the Federal Reserve has ended its bond purchasing program, monetary policy remains accommodative with the federal funds rate near zero. With the domestic economy gaining some traction as evidenced by an improved labor market, the U.S. equity market gained just over 10% in 2014. This was in sharp contrast with non-U.S. global equities which posted negative returns reflecting decelerating growth. As such, U.S. equities appear to be less favorably valued than non-U.S. equities and will likely return less in 2015 than they did in 2014. Bond returns will continue to be meager, if not negative, as rate increases cause bond prices to decline more than the interest they produce. All in all, 2015 should produce results consistent with the Trust Funds' risk tolerance, but less than those of the past two years.

**Financial Statements
Appendix**

June 30, 2014